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A Graphical Overview of Crime and the Administration of Criminal Justice in Canada

Canadian Centre
for Justice Statistics

Centre canadien
de la statistique juridique



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A Graphical Overview of Crime and the Administration of Criminal Justice in Canada

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Note of Appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing cooperation involving Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.



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Introduction

In 1981, the Chief Statistician and the Federal and Provincial Deputy Ministers with responsibility for justice in Canada began the National Justice Statistics Initiative in response to the long time absence of a comprehensive system of comparable national justice statistics. The purpose of the Initiative is to collect and disseminate justice statistics and information to support the administration of justice in Canada, and to ensure that accurate information regarding the nature and extent of crime and the administration of civil and criminal justice is available to the Canadian public. The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) is the administrative arm of the Initiative and a division of Statistics Canada. With guidance from its provincial-federal committees, the CCJS develops and implements statistical surveys, and provides information, products and services to both the partners in the Initiative and the public.

The purpose of this product is to provide a visual statistical overview of crime and the administration of criminal justice in Canada. While more detailed information is available in a variety of CCJS publications focusing on specific surveys or subject matters (see Appendices A and B), this product brings together data from all the CCJS's surveys, and data from two Statistics Canada victimization surveys. To provide national and international context, selected Canadian socio-demographic statistics are included, as well as international crime statistics. Specifically, graphics are presented on the following areas: Canadian socio-demographic characteristics; Canadian police-reported crime statistics (the incident, the accused, the victim); police administration statistics; adult and youth court activity; the correctional population; costs of the criminal justice system; violence against women; Canadians' experiences with crime, and their perceptions and fears of crime; and international crime statistics.

Survey Descriptions

Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) survey was developed by Statistics Canada with the cooperation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The UCR survey became operational in 1962. It covers crime and traffic statistics reported by all police agencies across Canada. UCR survey data reflect reported crime that has been substantiated through police investigation. The survey collects numbers of criminal incidents, and numbers of persons charged. To date, the UCR survey has thus produced a continuous 33-year historical record.

Throughout this report, **the terms "crime" and "crime rate" refer to total police-reported Criminal Code actual incidents, excluding traffic**, unless noted otherwise. It is also important to note that, **for incidents involving multiple offences, only the most serious offence in the incident is counted**. All crime rates are based on 100,000 population unless otherwise stated.

The Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

In 1983, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics began a major revision of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey in order to collect more detailed information on the characteristics of an incident and basic data on the persons involved in an incident, both victims and accused. In 1988, two police agencies began reporting to the "Revised" UCR Survey. By 1994, 111 police agencies, representing about 33% of the national volume of reported crime, were responding to the new survey.

Homicide Survey

The Homicide Survey has collected police-reported data on homicide incidents and characteristics of the victims and accused since 1961. Whenever a homicide becomes known to the police, an officer from the police department in whose jurisdiction it is committed completes a survey questionnaire. This questionnaire remained virtually unchanged from 1961 to 1990. In 1991, in an effort to respond to changing information needs, the survey was revised to add new data elements as well as to improve some existing ones.

Police Administration Survey

The Police Administration Survey collects information on police personnel and expenditures from all municipal and provincial police forces in Canada, as well as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Personnel data are available by type of personnel (police, special constables, civilians), gender and major function. Expenditures are available by major financial category. Detailed RCMP expenditures are collected, including the cost-sharing of municipal and provincial policing contracts.

Adult Criminal Court Survey

The Adult Criminal Court Survey (ACCS) has two primary components: caseload and case characteristics. The Case Characteristics component of the survey collects detailed information on each appearance of an accused charged with a Criminal Code or Other Federal Statute offence. The survey collects all appearances in provincial courts for 'completed' charges within a certain reference period. As of March 1994, Case Characteristics data are collected from five jurisdictions: Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. The Caseload Component of the ACCS is designed to collect aggregate information on charges, persons and appearances on a quarterly basis from all jurisdictions in Canada. As of March 1994, six jurisdictions participate in the caseload component of the survey: Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. As a result, the coverage of provincial and territorial adult criminal court caseload in Canada is approximately 30 percent for the Case Characteristics component and 65 percent for the Caseload component.

Youth Court Survey

The Youth Court Survey (YCS) is a census of Criminal Code and other Federal Statute offences heard in youth court for youths aged 12 to 17 years at the time of the offence. On each charge, data are collected which describe the nature of the offence, the court decision and disposition, and the age and gender of the accused. Data have been available since 1984-85 for all jurisdictions except Ontario and the Northwest Territories. YCS data for Ontario became available in 1991-92. Data for the Northwest Territories are not available for fiscal years 1986-87 through 1988-89.

Adult Corrections Survey

The Adult Corrections Survey (ACS) collects aggregate caseload and case characteristics data for custodial and non-custodial correctional services at both the federal and provincial levels. As well, the survey gathers information on resources, expenditures and personnel. Descriptive data on organizational structure and service delivery are also collected. The ACS became operational in 1979-80 and collects data from all jurisdictions.

Corrections Key Indicator Report for Adult and Young Offenders

The Key Indicator Report (KIR) Project provides data on "average daily institutional counts" for all provincial, territorial and federal facilities across Canada. Key indicator data on adults were first gathered for the fiscal year 1981-82 and data on youths for the fiscal year 1985-86. Information is supplied to the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics by the ten provinces, two territories and Correctional Services Canada.

The Violence Against Women Survey

Between February and June 1993 and on behalf of Health Canada, Statistics Canada conducted a national survey on male violence against women. A random sample of approximately 12,300 women 18 years of age and older residing across the ten provinces were interviewed in depth by telephone about their experiences of physical and sexual violence since the age of 16. Measures of violence were confined to Criminal Code definitions of physical and sexual assault. Information was also collected about the respondents' perceptions of personal safety. Random selection helps ensure that the women who responded are statistically representative of all Canadian women and that the results of the survey can be generalized to Canada's adult female population at large.

The General Social Survey

In 1988, a survey on personal risk related to criminal victimization was initiated as part of Statistics Canada's General Social Survey program. The survey collected data on personal risk, examining the prevalence and social and demographic distribution of eight specific types of criminal victimization experiences. Respondents were asked about their experiences with crime during 1987 and all measures of victimization were restricted to Criminal Code definitions. The survey also examined details surrounding the incident, Canadians' levels of fear, and their perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system. This survey was replicated in 1993. Two main differences exist between the 1993 and 1988 surveys. First, the 1993 survey asked respondents about their experiences with crime during the twelve months prior to the survey rather than during the previous calendar year. Second, the definition of sexual assault was broadened in the 1993 survey to better capture these incidents as defined by the Criminal Code: while the 1988 survey asked only about experiences of "rape", the 1993 survey asked about forced sexual activity and unwanted sexual touching. Both surveys conducted telephone interviews with a random sample of approximately 10,000 Canadians aged 15 years and older residing in households across the ten provinces.

International Crime Survey

The International Crime Survey (ICS) was conducted in 1989 and 1992 in order to enable comparisons of national crime rates. The survey measured criminal victimizations in a number of different countries using a standard questionnaire. In 1987, a Working Group was set up to put forward a collaborative survey. Fourteen countries eventually took part in the first cycle of the ICS which was conducted in 1989. In 1990, participants in the first ICS and a number of other countries were invited to participate in a second cycle of the survey in 1992. Twenty countries in all took part in either one or both cycles of the ICS. Respondents were interviewed by telephone about their experiences with various types of victimization. Further, data was collected on their fear of crime, satisfaction with local policing, crime prevention behaviour and the preferred sentence for a 21-year old recidivist burglar. The sample size for each country for each cycle ranges between 1,500 and 2,000 respondents.

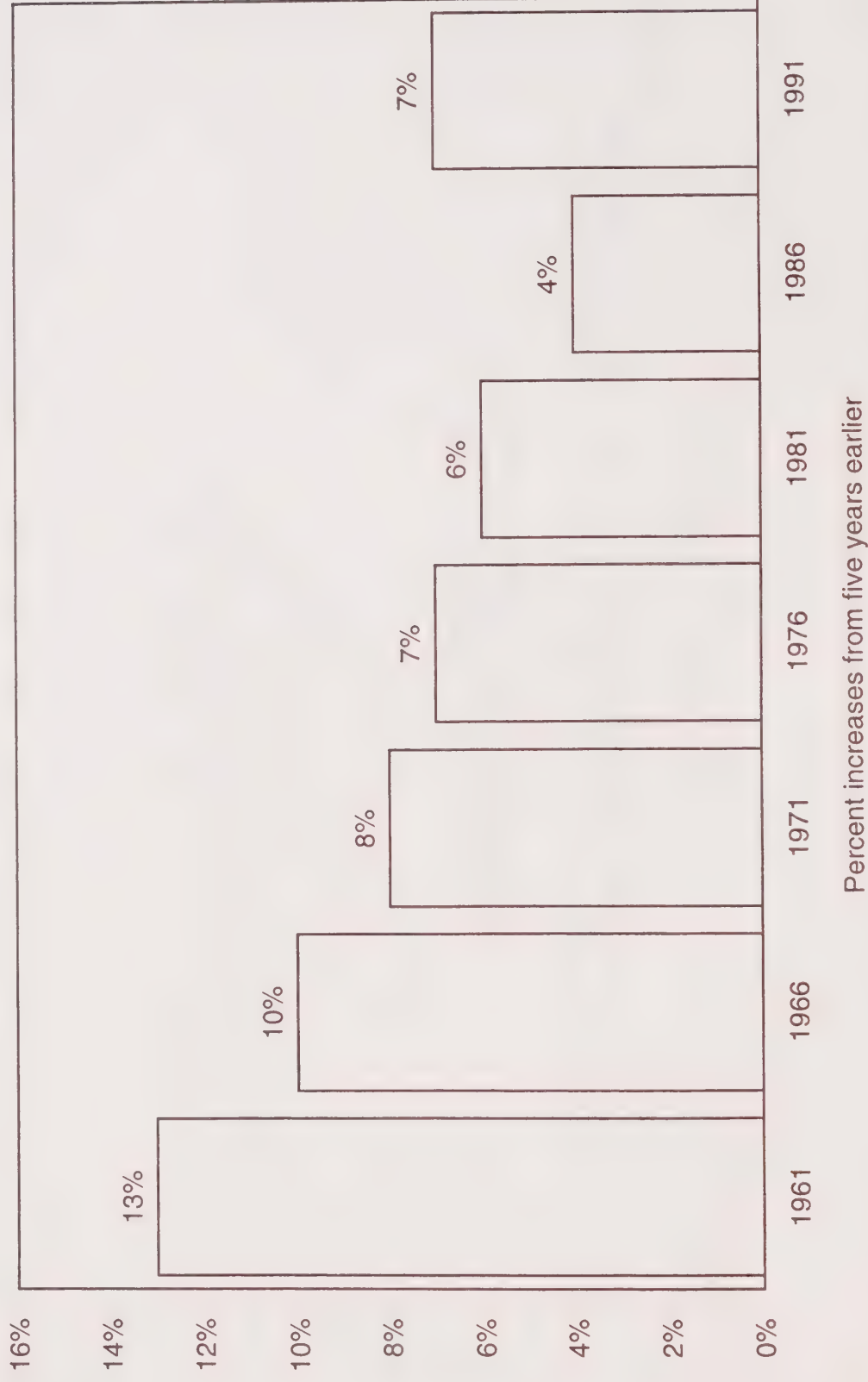


Section 1:

CANADIAN SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS

Figure 1.1

Population Growth, Percent Increases From Five Years Before

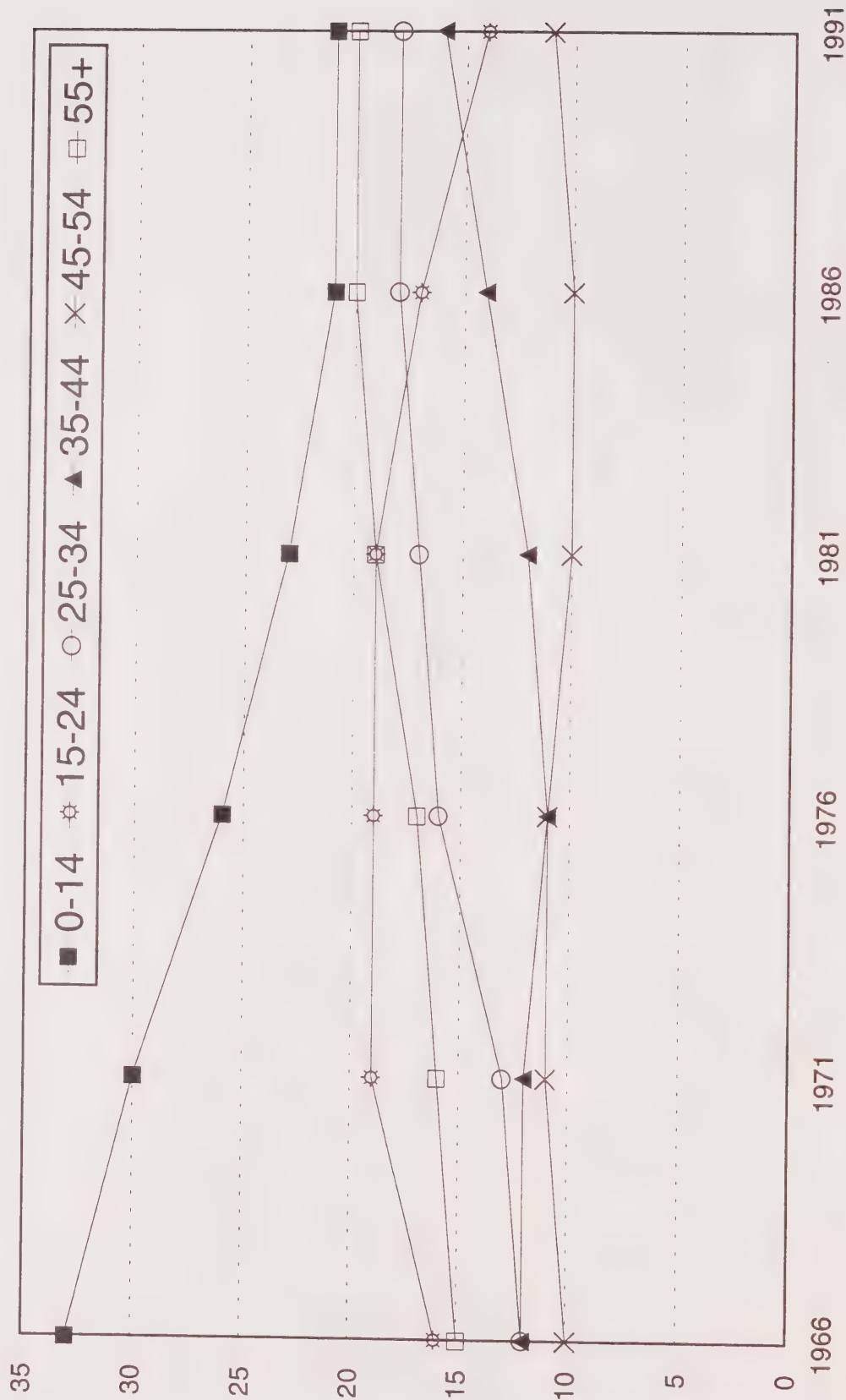


Source: Canada Census, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Population Estimates and Projections, Census and Intercensal Studies (catalogues 91-002 and 91-536E).

- ◆ Since Confederation, Canada's population has multiplied eightfold: in 1991, Census of Population counted 27.3 million people in Canada while there were only 3.4 million counted in 1867.
- ◆ Although Canada's population has grown, the rate of growth has decreased since the mid-1950's, this downward trend has only recently reversed with a 7% growth in population between the 1986 and 1991 Censuses.

Figure 1.2

Age Groupings as a Proportion of Total Population

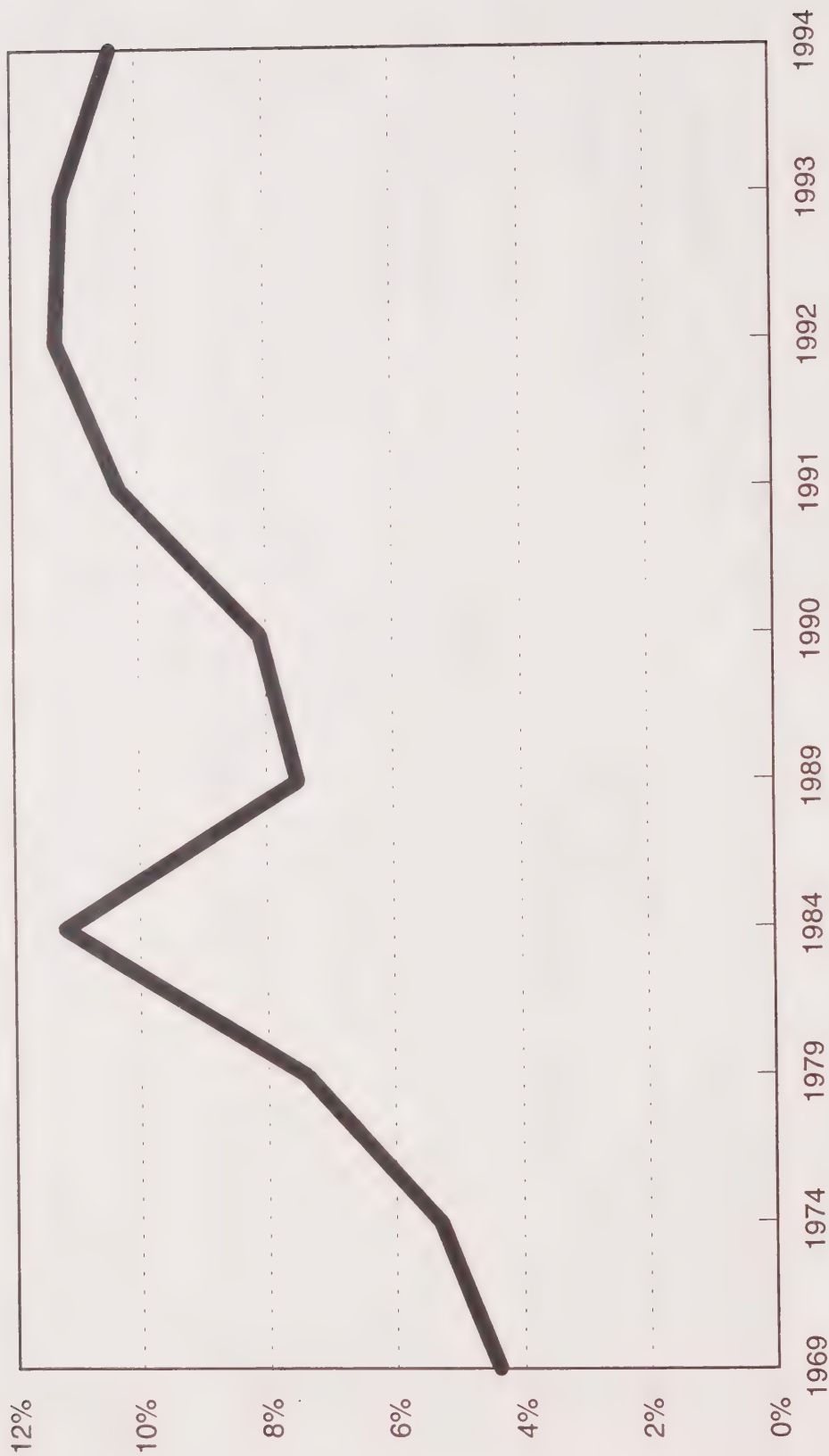


Source: Canada Census, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Age, Sex and Marital Status (catalogue no.93-310).

- ◆ Since the high in 1959, Canada's birthrate has been declining and the country's population has been aging. Over the last two decades, persons less than 24 years of age have been making up a smaller and smaller proportion of the population while the proportion of older age groupings has been increasing.
- ◆ Persons aged 0 to 14 decreased drastically from 33% of the population in 1966 to 21% in 1991. While less drastically, the proportion of persons age 15 to 24 has also been declining. It changed from 16% in 1966 to 19% in 1971, 1976 and 1981 to 14% in 1991. From 1981 to 1991, the number of persons aged 15 to 24 has declined by 828,000.
- ◆ As a proportion of the population, the age group of persons 55 years of age and older has steadily increased from 15% in 1966 to 20% in 1991.

Figure 1.3

Unemployment Rate*, Selected Years



* Annual averages. The unemployment rate is an estimate of the percentage of the labour force not employed and seeking work. The measure does not include those who report that they would like work, but who have quit searching because they believe no work is available.

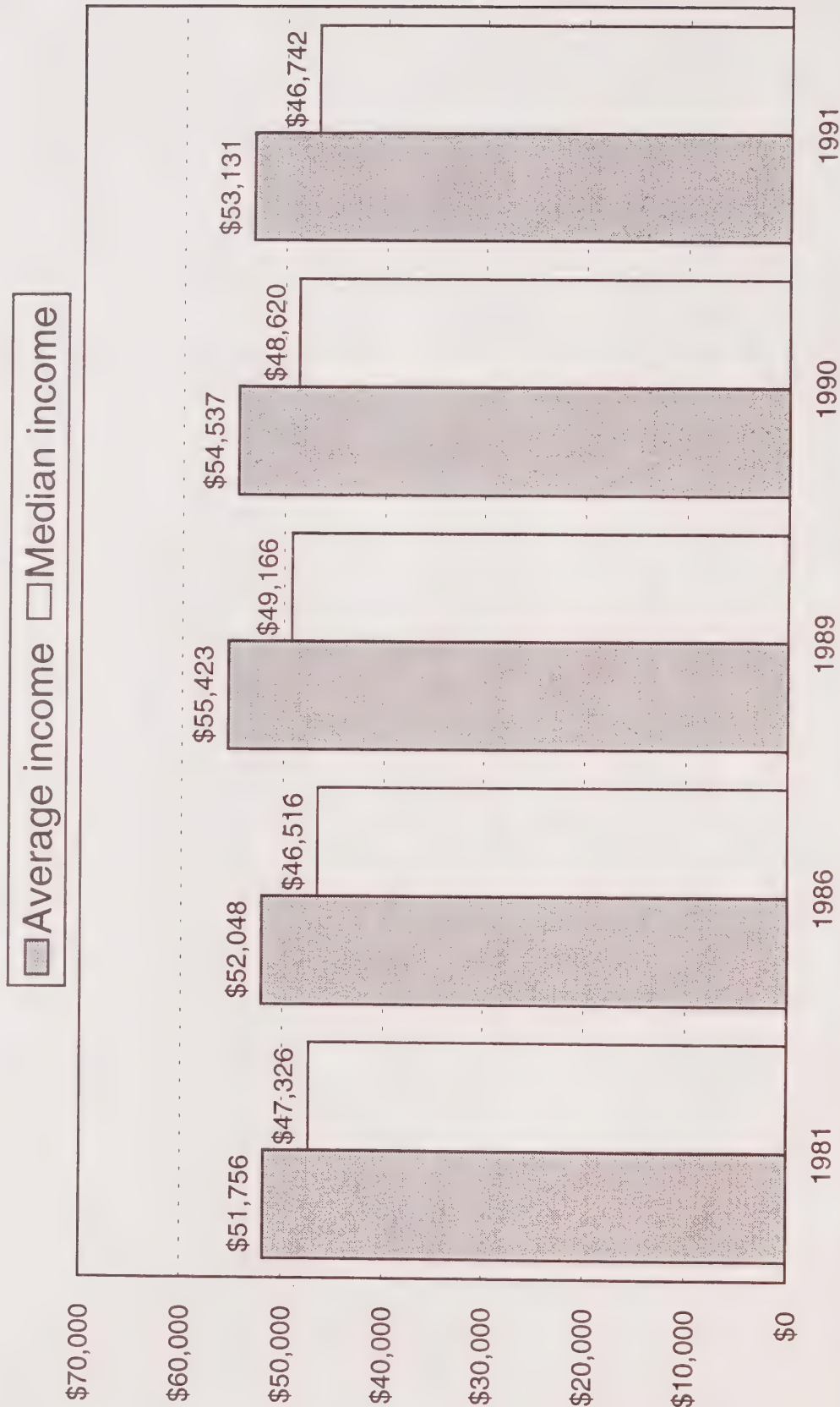
Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Labour Force Annual Averages (catalogue 71-220).

- ◆ The recession that began in 1990 greatly affected the unemployment rate in Canada which reached a nine-year high of 11.8% in November 1992.
- ◆ The recession affected employment in almost every age group and profession. Between 1990 and 1992, the number of employed Canadians dropped by 330,000.
- ◆ Younger Canadians, particularly those with limited education, were especially affected by the recession. The unemployment rate for young people aged 15 to 24 years rose from 11.3% in 1989 to 17.8% in 1992. In comparison, those aged 45 years and older experienced an unemployment rate of 8.3% in 1992. Of those aged 15 to 24 years, the unemployment rate was higher among men (20.2% in 1992) than women (15.2%).

Figure 1.4

Average and Median* Family Income in Constant 1991 Dollars**



* Median income refers to the middle value when incomes are ranged in order of magnitude.

** Constant dollars are dollar amounts calculated on a one-year base which adjusts for inflation making the yearly amounts directly comparable.

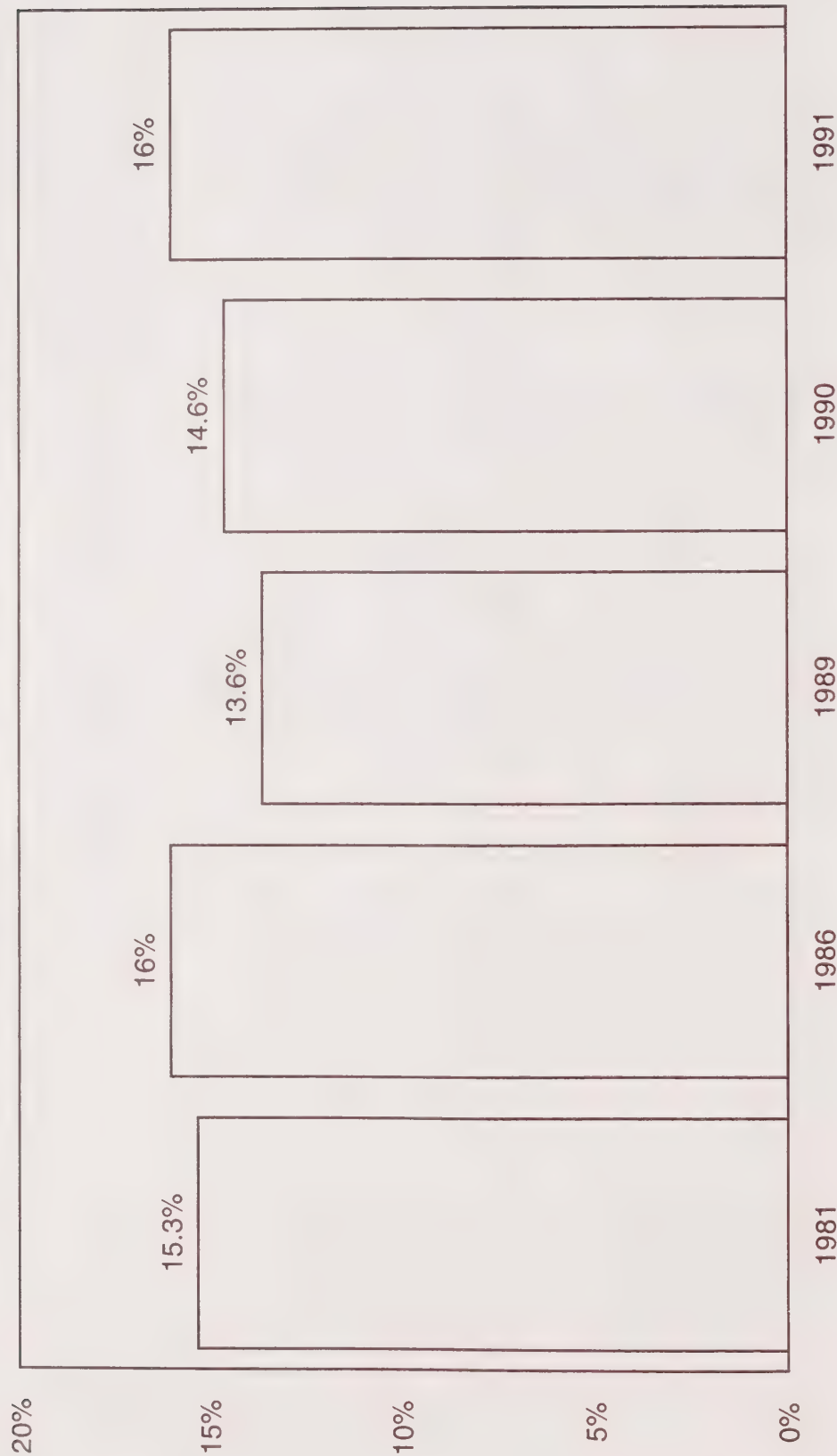
Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Estimates of Labour Income (catalogue no.75-002).

- ◆ During the recession that began in 1990, family incomes declined. Average family income before taxes in 1991 was \$53,131, down 2.6% from 1990 (after adjusting for inflation), marking the second consecutive decline.
- ◆ Recent declines brought the 1991 average family gross income to a level only slightly above that recorded in 1980 (\$52,641 in 1991 constant dollars) and well below the 1989 peak.

Figure 1.5

Low Income Incidence* in Canada



* Percentage of families and unattached individuals with incomes below the "low income cutoffs". Cutoffs are selected on the basis that unattached individuals and families with incomes below these limits spend, on average, 52.6% or more of their income on food, shelter and clothing. This indicator of low income is not intended as a measure of poverty.

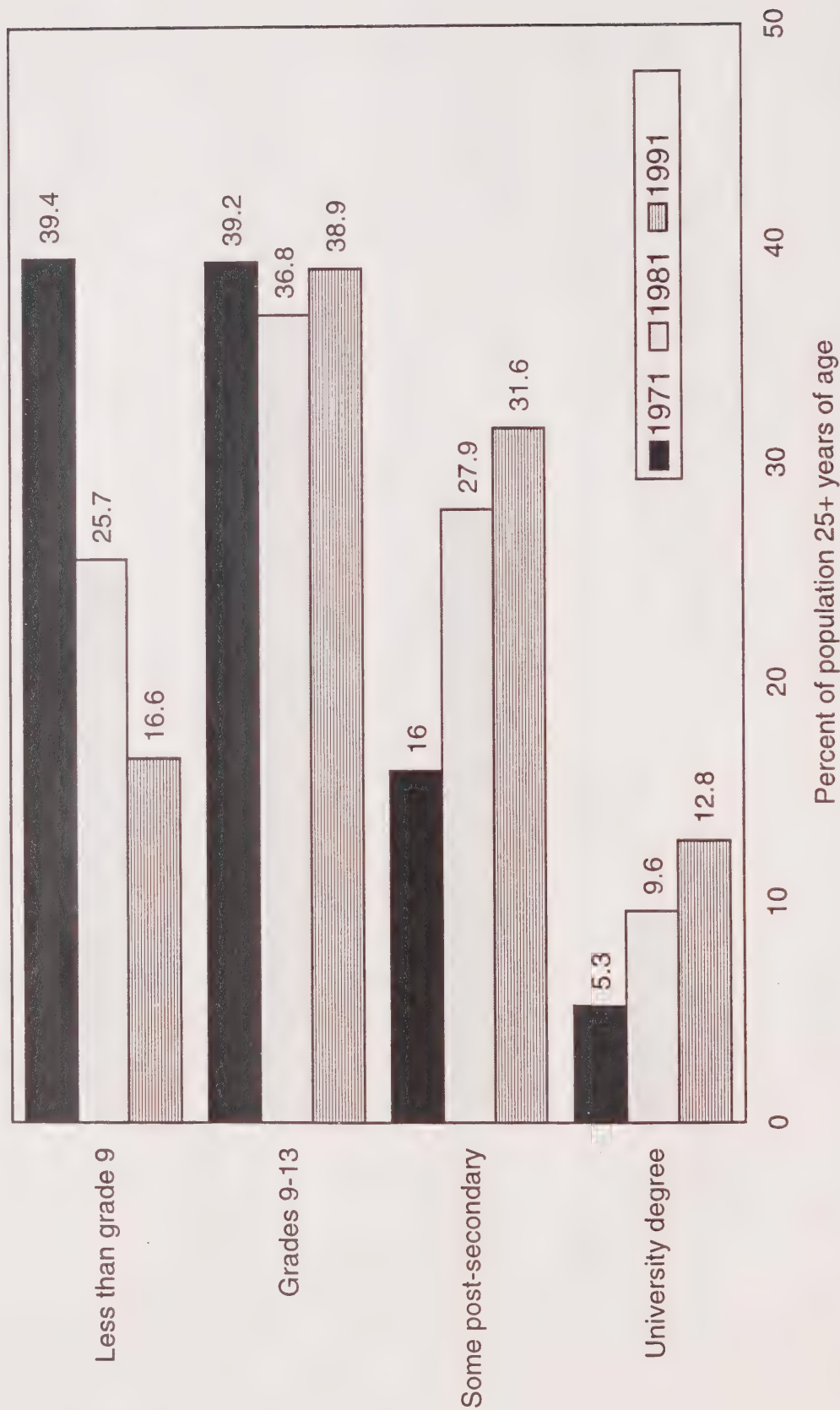
Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Estimate of Labour Income (catalogue no.72-005).

- ◆ In 1991, there was an estimated 4.2 million Canadians living in low-income situations, an increase of more than 400,000 in 1990. 1991 represented the second consecutive increase in low income Canadians.
- ◆ For families, the rate of low income in 1991 was 13.1% (representing almost 950,000 families), an increase from the 12.1% in 1990 and 11.1% in 1989. Female lone-parent families had the highest rate of low income, rising to almost 62% in 1991.
- ◆ 18.3% of children under 18 years of age (or 1.2 million young people) were living in low-income situations in 1991, an increase over 16.9% in 1990 and 14.5% in 1989.
- ◆ Unattached Canadians less than 25 years of age have the highest rate of low income of any age group. In 1991, their rate reached 55.5%, up from 52.6% in 1990 and 47.8% in 1989.

Figure 1.6

Population 25 Years and Over by Highest Level of Schooling



- ◆ More Canadians are achieving higher levels of education than they did twenty years ago. In 1991, less than grade 9 was the highest level of education attained by 16.6% of Canadians aged 25 years and older, compared to 39.4% two decades earlier.
- ◆ In 1971 and 1991, similar proportions of Canadians aged 25 years and older reported attaining grades 9 to 13 as their highest level of schooling. However, the proportion that reported attaining post-secondary or university degrees increased more than twofold from 1971 to 1991.



Section 2:

POLICE-REPORTED CRIME STATISTICS

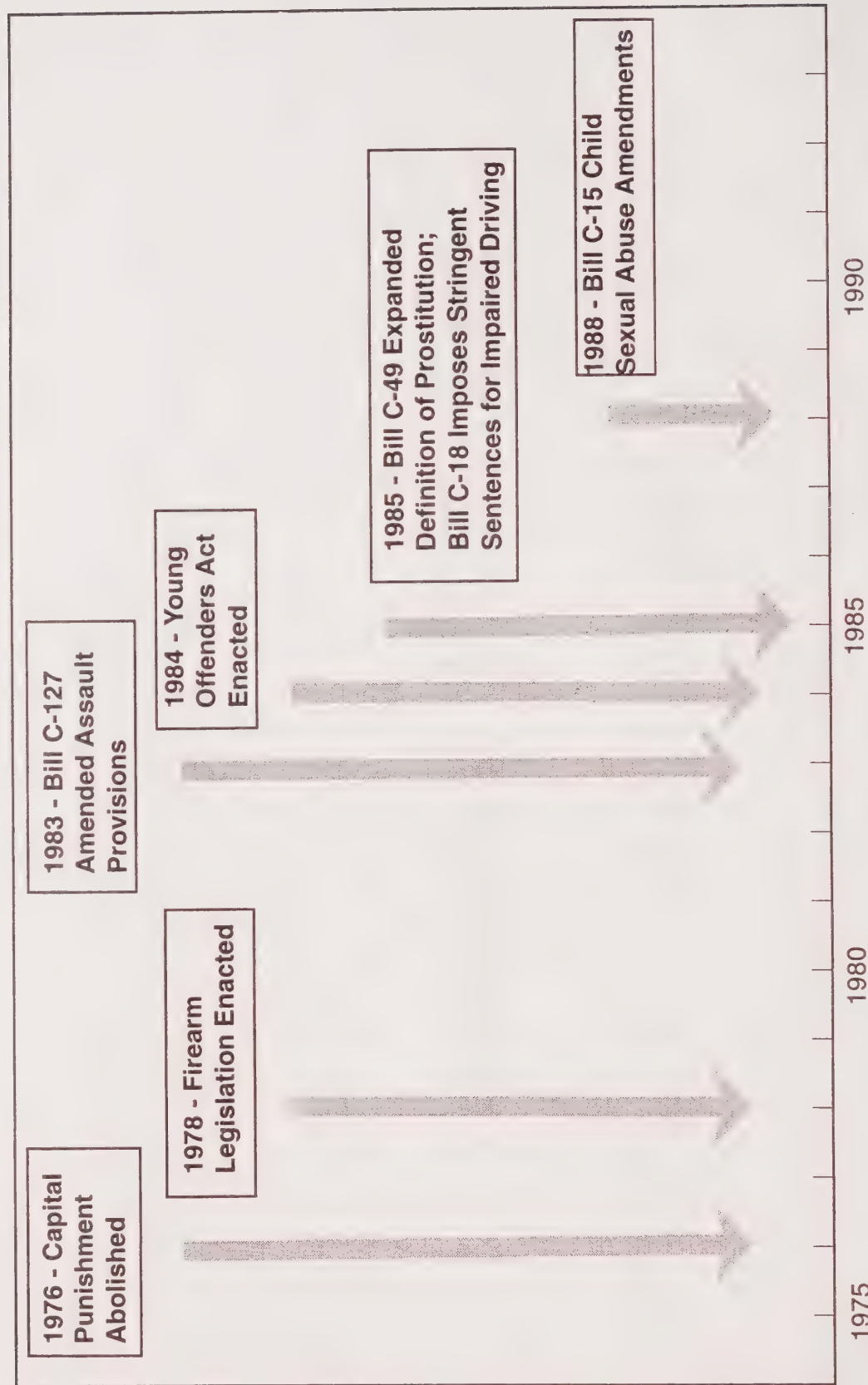


Section 2a:

CRIMINAL INCIDENTS

Figure 2.1

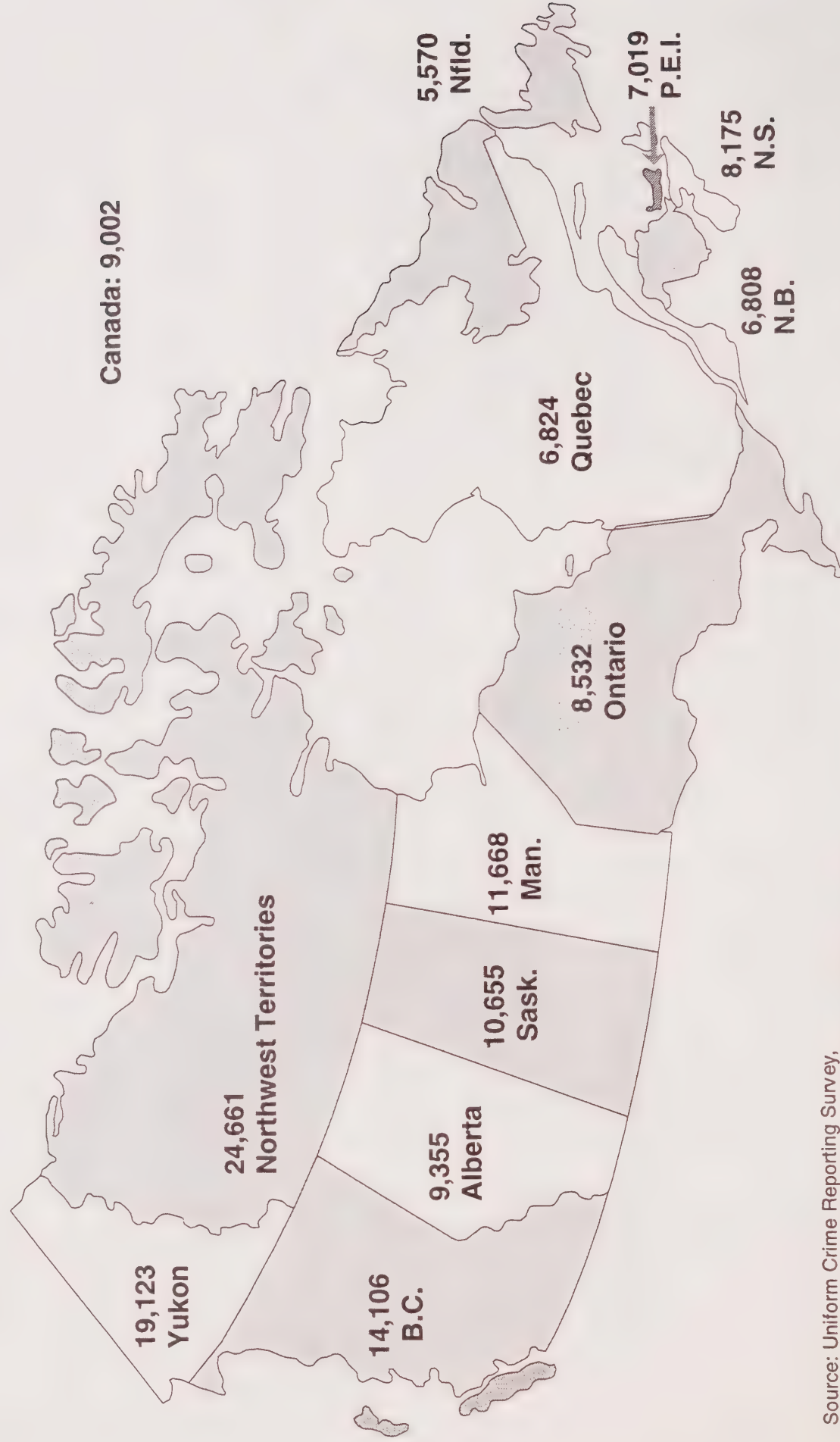
Selected Changes in Justice Legislation



- ◆ In 1976, capital punishment was abolished and replaced with a mandatory life sentence for all those offences for which death sentences existed. The amendment also reclassified murder, from capital and non-capital murder to first and second degree murder.
- ◆ In 1978, gun control legislation came into effect in Canada. This legislation included the imposition of stricter controls on the issuance of registration certificates which are necessary to acquire restricted weapons such as handguns, the creation of new types of firearm prohibition orders, the creation of new criminal offences in relation to firearm use, and the provision for more severe penalties for the criminal use of firearms.
- ◆ In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the physical and sexual assault sections of the Criminal Code, establishing three levels: level 1 (minor assault/sexual assault), level 2 (incidents involving a weapon or resulting in bodily harm), and level 3 (aggravated assault/sexual assault).
- ◆ The Young Offenders Act (YOA) came into effect in 1984, replacing the Juvenile Delinquents Act. At this time, 12 became the minimum age requirement for criminal responsibility under the YOA. However, it was not until 1985 that the maximum age of 17 (up to the 18th birthday) was established in all provinces and territories.
- ◆ In 1985, Bill C-49 expanded the definition of soliciting to include the act of stopping or attempting to stop a person to communicate for the purpose of engaging in prostitution. This amendment resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of prostitution related incidents after 1985.
- ◆ In 1985, Bill C-18 imposed more stringent sentences for drinking and driving. Despite the severity of penalties, impaired driving offences are highly sensitive to changes in police enforcement practices.
- ◆ In 1988, Bill C-15 introduced child abuse amendments to the Criminal Code and the Canada Evidence Act. The Bill created three new offences relating to the sexual abuse of children: sexual interference, sexual exploitation, and invitation to sexual touching. It also changed rules of evidence and procedure with respect to sexual offences and the testimony of young people under the age of 18.

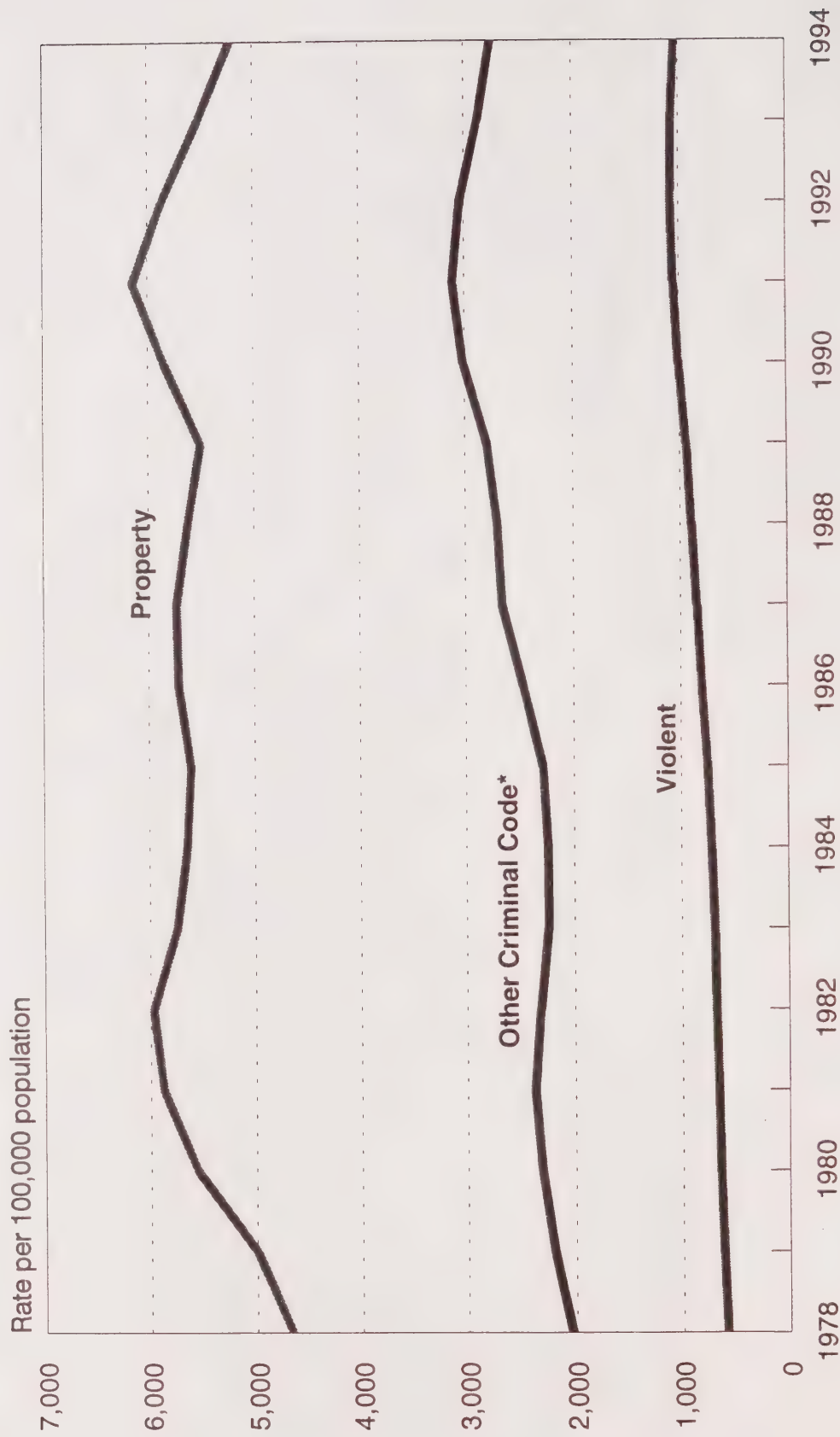
Figure 2.2

Crime Rate Per 100,000 Population, Canada, 1994



- ◆ Provincial crime rates in 1994 ranged from a low of 5,570 Criminal Code incidents per 100,000 population in Newfoundland to a rate of 14,106 in British Columbia.
- ◆ Historically, crime rates in the Atlantic provinces are generally lower than those in Quebec and Ontario, which in turn are lower than rates in the Western provinces. The Yukon and Northwest Territories, with low populations, historically show greater crime rates than the provinces.

Figure 2.3
Criminal Code Incidents, Canada, 1978 to 1994

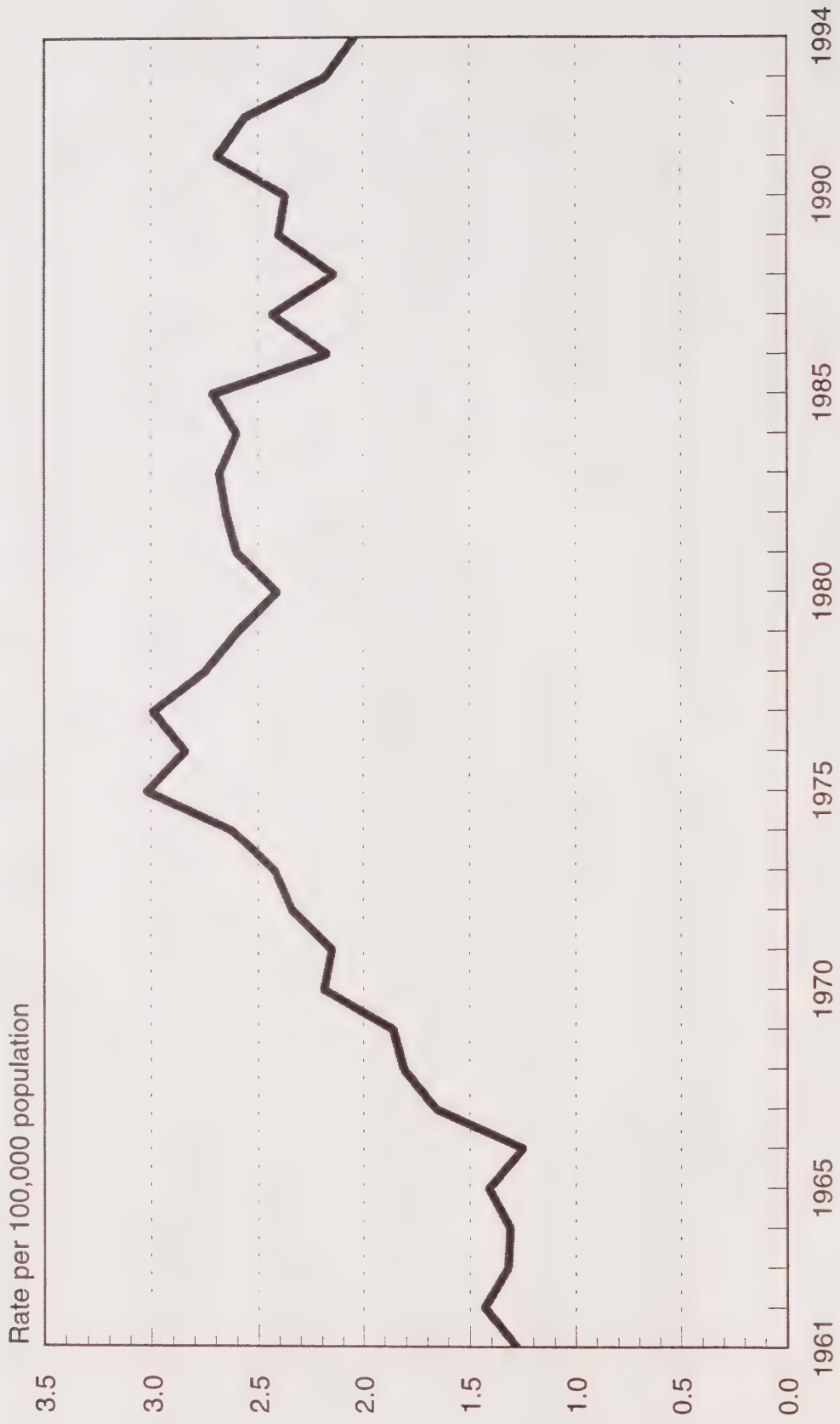


* Excludes Criminal Code traffic incidents.
 Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
 For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no.85-002) Vol.15, No.12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, the police-reported crime rate decreased by 5%, the third consecutive year-to-year decline.
- ◆ The 1994 violent crime rate declined by 3%, the largest annual decline since 1962, the first year of the crime survey.
- ◆ Violent crime accounted for 12% of total Criminal Code incidents. Assault level 1 (minor assault) incidents make up the majority (60%) of all violent crime incidents.
- ◆ The 1994 property crime rate decreased by 6% below the previous year, continuing the recent downward trend.
- ◆ In 1994, property crimes represented 58% of Criminal Code incidents. 65% of property crimes were thefts and 25% were incidents of breaking and entering.
- ◆ The rate of "other" Criminal Code incidents (e.g. prostitution, gaming and betting, arson, kidnapping, mischief) decreased by 4% in 1994 marking the third consecutive annual decline. "Other" Criminal Code incidents represented 30% of all Criminal Code incidents in 1994. One-half of "other" incidents were mischief offences (property damage).

Figure 2.4

Homicide Rate, Canada, 1961-1994

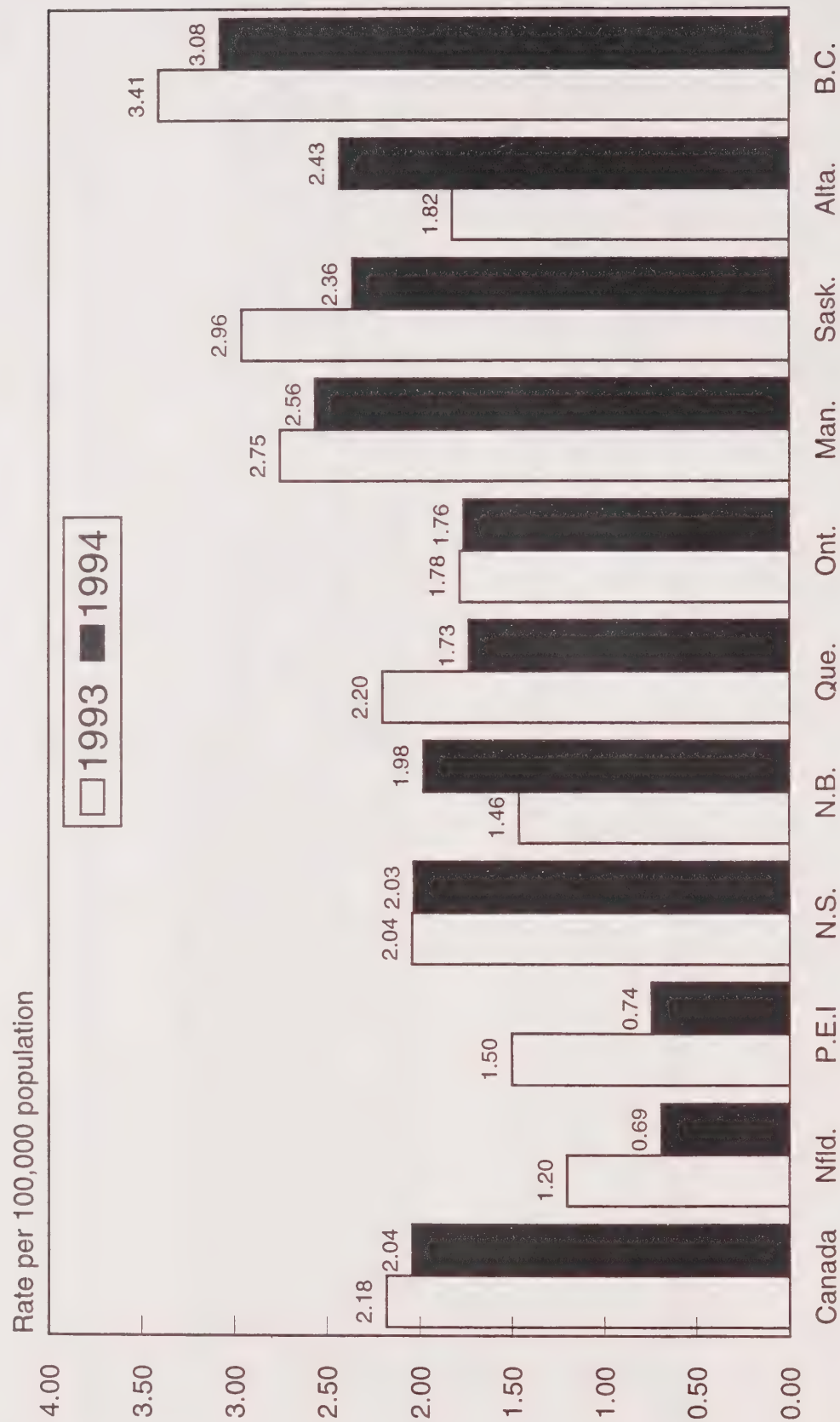


Source: Homicide Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 11, "Homicide in Canada, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, there were 596 homicide offences reported in Canada, a decrease of 34 homicides from 1993, and the third consecutive annual decrease. The 1994 homicide rate of 2.04 per 100,000 population was 6% lower than the rate in 1993 and the lowest rate recorded in Canada in 25 years.
- ◆ Since 1961 there have been two distinct trends. Between 1961 and 1975, the homicide rate increased steadily from 1.3 per 100,000 population to a peak of 3.0, an increase of 131%. From 1975 to 1994, despite yearly fluctuations, the homicide rate has gradually declined from 3.0 per 100,000 to 2.0, a decrease of 33%.
- ◆ Homicides continue to account for less than 1% of all violent crimes reported by police.
- ◆ The U.S. homicide rate has historically been three to four times higher than that of Canada.

Figure 2.5

Homicide Rate, Canada and the Provinces, 1993 and 1994

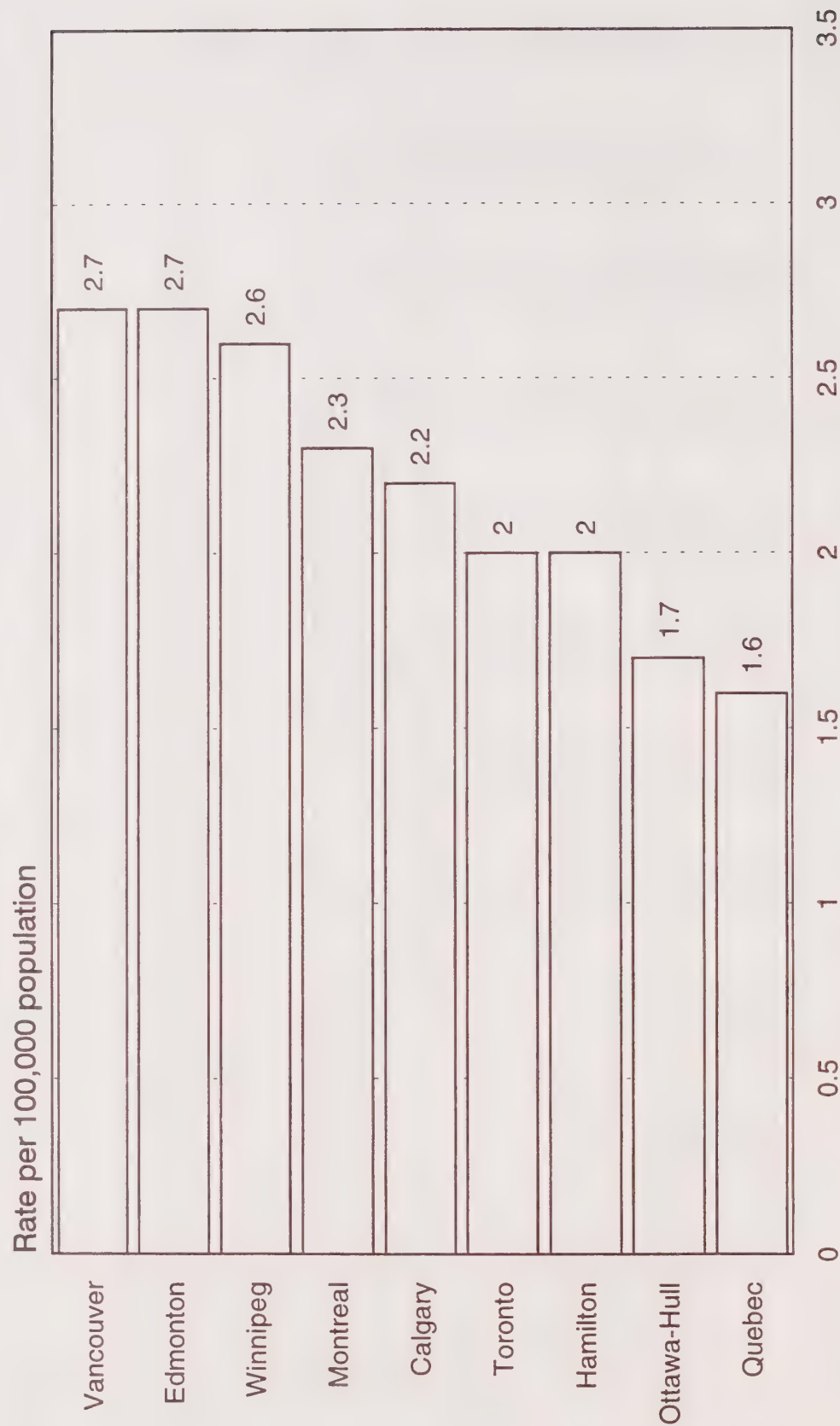


Source: Homicide Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 11, "Homicide in Canada, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, British Columbia recorded the highest provincial homicide rate per 100,000 population for the third consecutive year, followed by Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- ◆ Most of the decreases in the number of homicides at the national level between 1993 and 1994 was the result of a decline of 30 homicides in the Montreal metropolitan area. This resulted in Quebec having the third lowest provincial rate in 1994 and the lowest rate in 26 years in that province.
- ◆ Of the provinces, only New Brunswick and Alberta showed increases in the rate of homicides between 1993 and 1994.
- ◆ In 1994, six provinces recorded a lower number of homicides compared to their average for the previous ten years: Newfoundland, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Figure 2.6

Homicide Rate by Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)*, 500,000+ Population, 1994

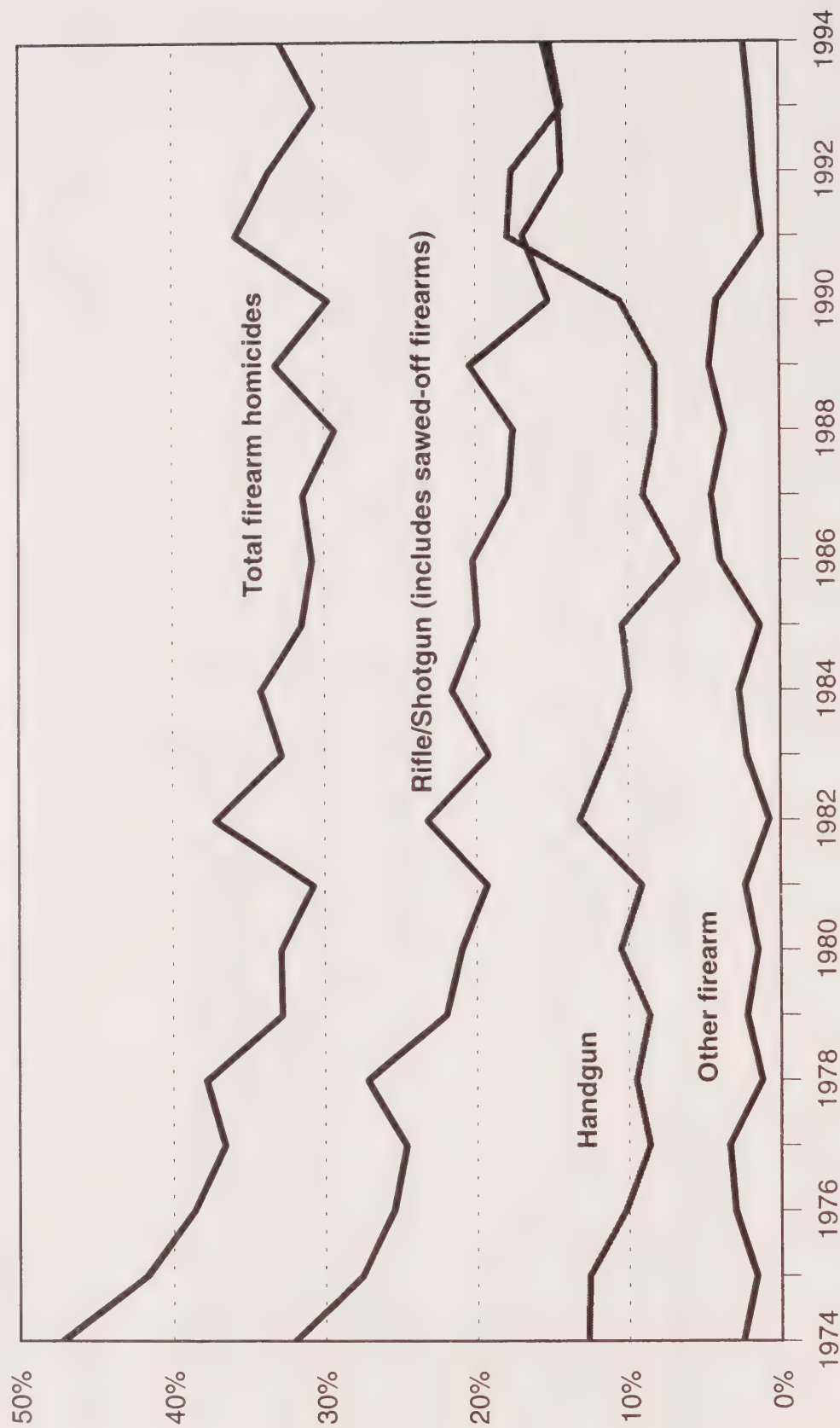


* An urbanized core with at least 100,000 population.
Source: Homicide Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol.15, No.11, "Homicide in Canada, 1994."

- ◆ Among the nine CMA's with populations 500,000+, Vancouver and Edmonton, despite decreases over 1993 in their number of homicides, reported the highest rate (2.7 per 100,000 population), followed by Winnipeg (2.6). Quebec City and Ottawa-Hull reported the lowest rates in 1994.
- ◆ The greatest decrease from 1993 to 1994 appeared in Montreal: the city reported 30 fewer homicides in 1994 bringing the rate down from 3.6 per 100,000 population in 1993 to 2.3 in 1994. Also, Vancouver reported a decrease of 15 fewer homicides in 1994 than in 1993 while Toronto experienced an increase over 1993 (14+).
- ◆ Historically, the rate of homicide has been higher in Montreal, Vancouver and Edmonton than in other census metropolitan areas within the CMA group size 500,000+.

Figure 2.7

Firearm Homicides as a Proportion of all Homicides by Type of Firearm, Canada, 1974 to 1994

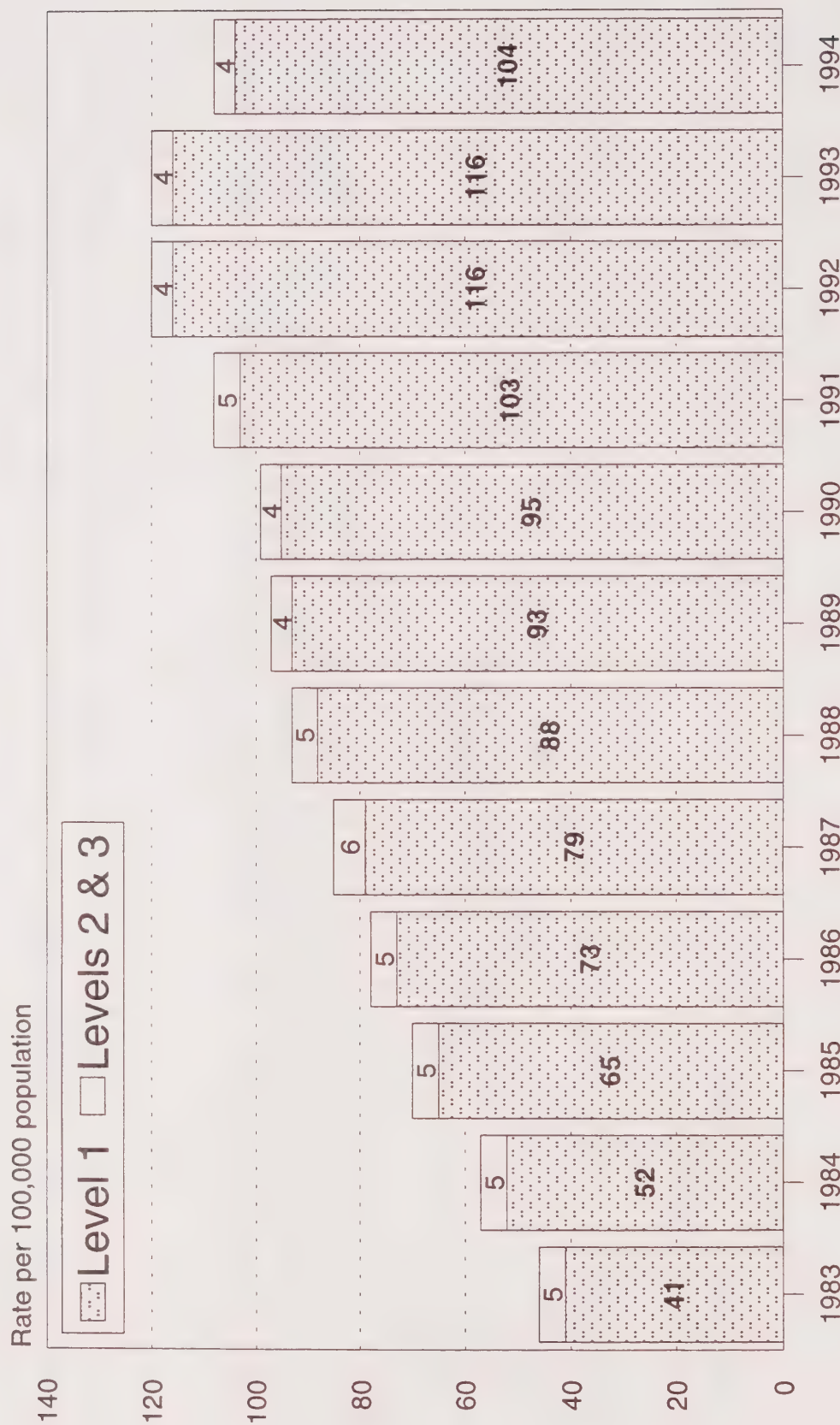


Source: Homicide Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 11, "Homicide in Canada, 1994."

- ◆ Between 1979 and 1993, shootings have accounted for roughly one-third of all homicides.
- ◆ In 1994, shootings accounted for 33% of homicides where the cause of death was known. In 1994, 90 (15%) homicides were committed with a handgun, 92 (15%) with a rifle/shotgun (includes sawed-off firearms) and 14 (2%) with a fully automatic firearm.
- ◆ From 1974 to 1990, the proportion of homicides resulting from the use of handguns remained relatively constant around 10%. Handgun usage then increased to 18% of all homicides in both 1991 and 1992 and decreased to 14% in 1993.
- ◆ While the use of rifles/shotguns in homicides has steadily declined since 1974, they have historically accounted for the majority of firearm homicides. However, in 1991 and 1992, the number of handgun homicides exceeded the number of rifle/shotgun homicides.

Figure 2.8

Sexual Assault Incidents, Canada, 1983* to 1994

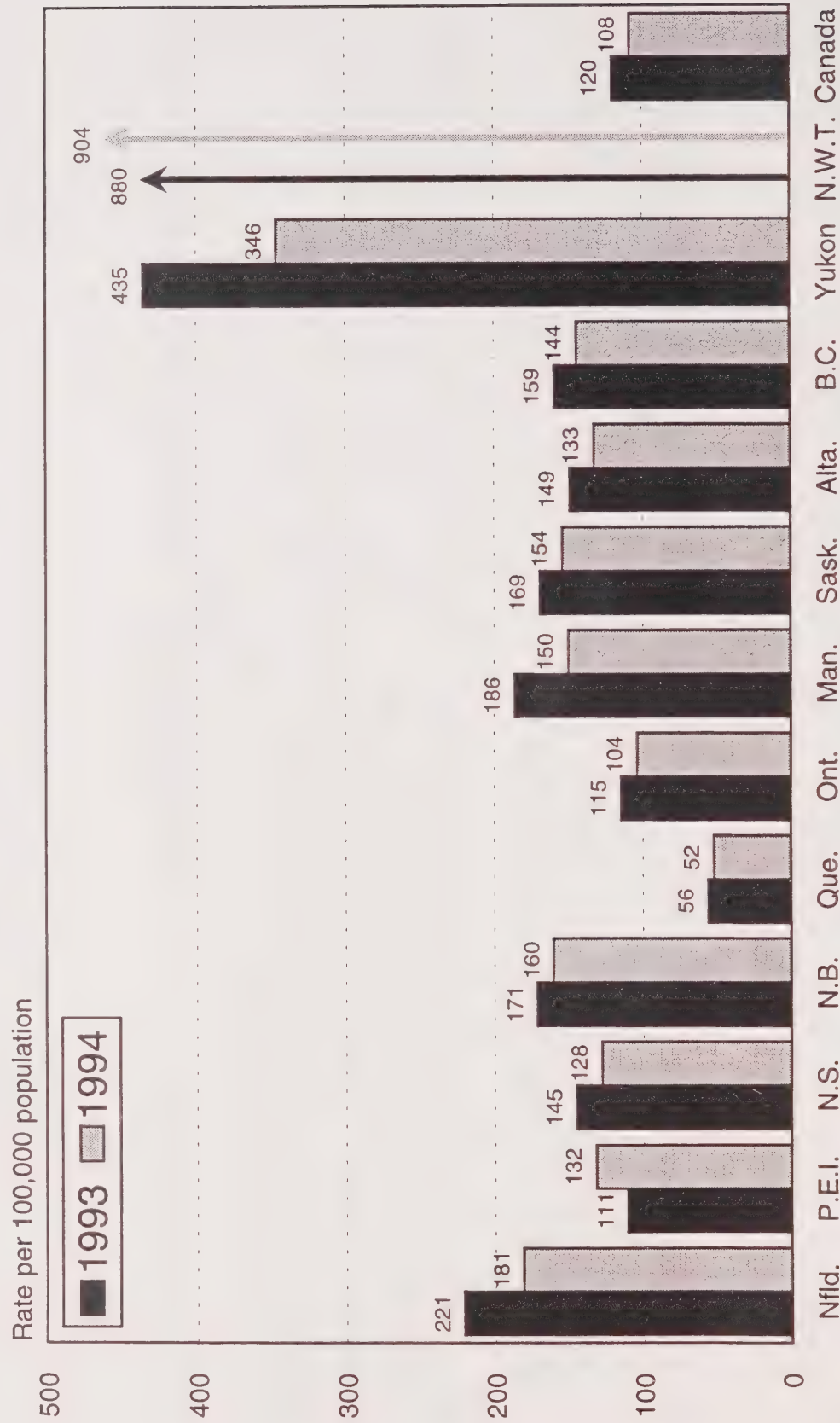


* In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the sexual assault sections of the Criminal Code and created three levels of sexual assault. Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no.85-002) Vol.15, No.12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the sexual assault sections of the Criminal Code, establishing three levels of sexual assault: level 1 (minor sexual assault); level 2 (incidents involving a weapon or resulting in bodily harm); and level 3 (aggravated sexual assault).
- ◆ In 1994, police recorded 31,690 incidents of sexual assault which accounted for 10% of all violent incidents that year. There were 108 incidents of sexual assault reported per 100,000 population in 1994. While the average annual increase in the rate between 1983 and 1994 was 10%, the rate between 1993 and 1994 decreased by 10%.
- ◆ The vast majority of sexual assault incidents (96% in 1994) are level 1 sexual assaults.
- ◆ In 1994, there were 104 level 1 sexual assaults reported per 100,000 population. While the rate of level 1 sexual assault showed an average annual increase of 11% since 1983, the rate decreased by 10% between 1993 and 1994.

Figure 2.9

Sexual Assault Incidents by Province, 1993 and 1994

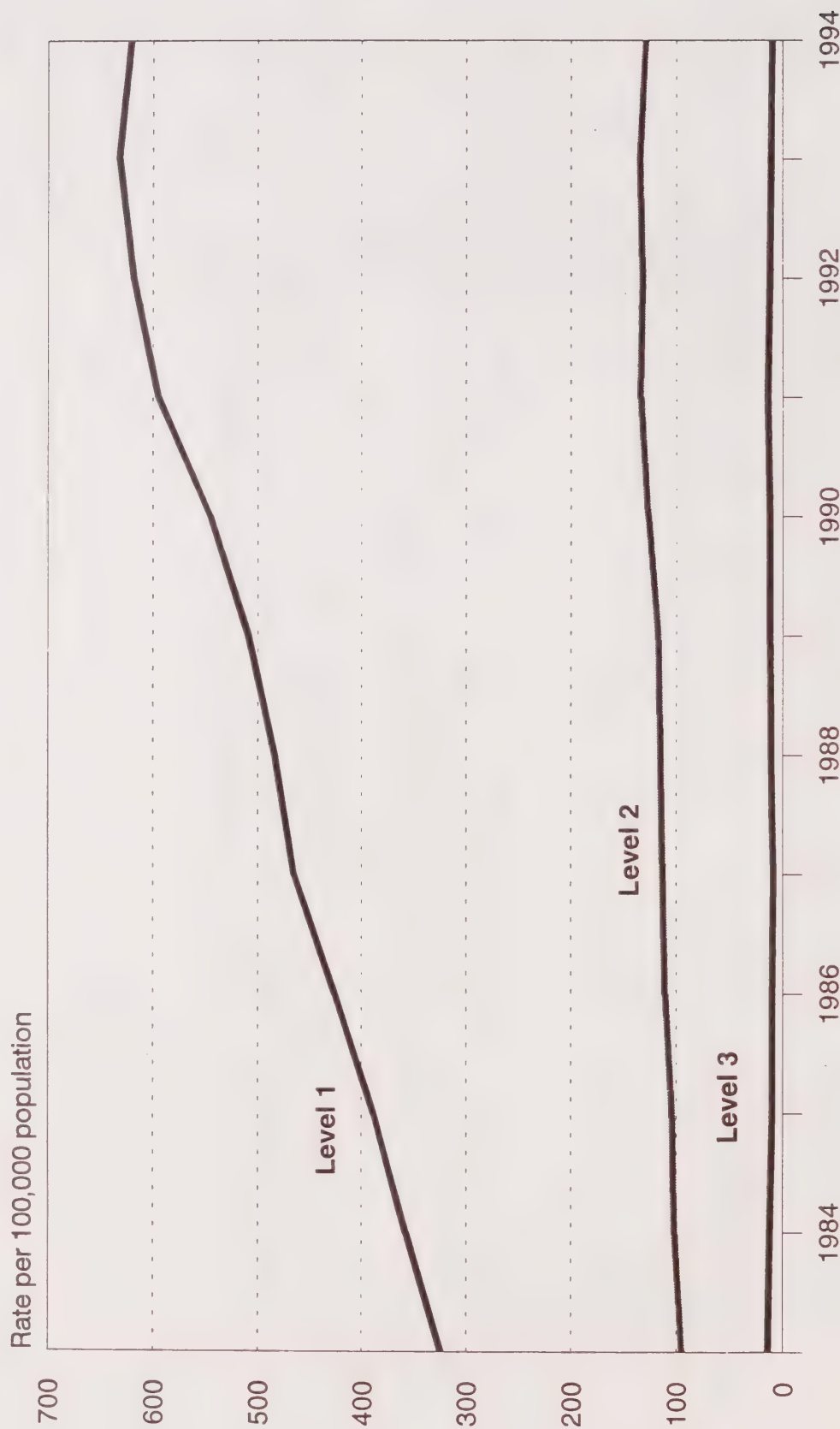


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the sexual assault sections of the Criminal Code, establishing three levels of sexual assault: level 1 (minor sexual assault), level 2 (incidents involving a weapon or resulting in bodily harm), and level 3 (aggravated sexual assault).
- ◆ Despite an 18% decrease in 1994, Newfoundland reported the highest rate of sexual assault per 100,000 population for each of the last five years. Quebec reported the lowest rates in each of these years.
- ◆ Prince Edward Island (+18.4%) was the only province to report an increase in the rate of sexual assault in 1994. Declines across the remaining provinces ranged from -6.6% in New Brunswick to -19.3% in Manitoba.

Figure 2.10

Non-Sexual Assault Incidents, Canada, 1983* to 1994

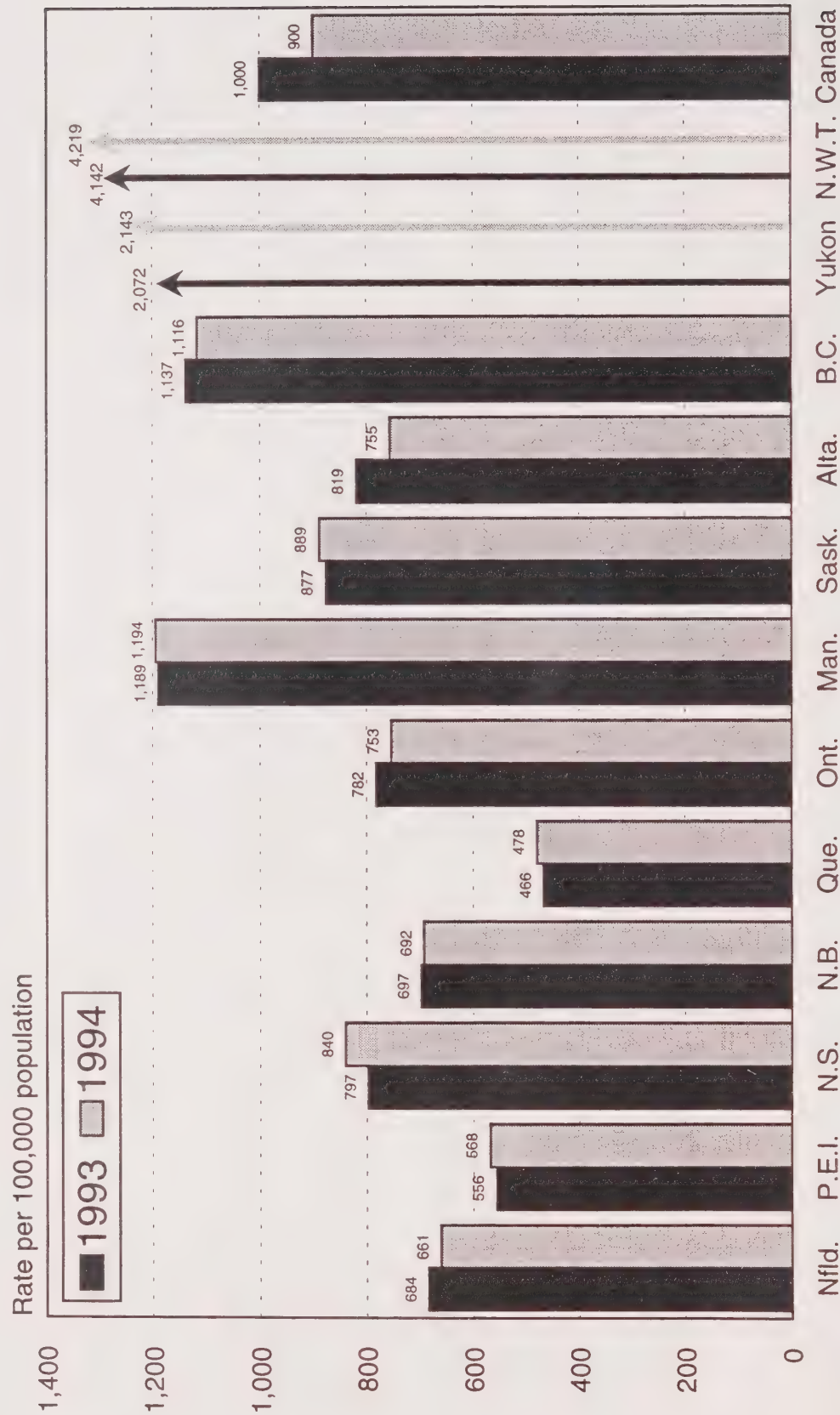


* In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the physical assault section of the Criminal Code and created three levels of assault. Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no.85-002) Vol.15, No.12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the physical assault sections of the Criminal Code, establishing three levels of assault: level 1 (minor assault); level 2 (incidents involving a weapon or resulting in bodily harm); and level 3 (aggravated assault).
- ◆ In 1994, the police recorded 181,400 incidents of assault level 1 (minor assault) which accounted for 60% of all violent incidents that year.
- ◆ In 1994, the rate of level 1 assault incidents (620 per 100,000 population) decreased by 1% below the previous year but has nearly doubled since 1983. Increases in reported minor assault incidents have strongly influenced the overall increases in violent crime over the past decade.
- ◆ In 1994, the rate of assault level 2 was 129 per 100,000 population. The rate for this offence has not increased as rapidly as the rate for minor assaults.
- ◆ In 1994, the rate of assault level 3 (assault resulting in serious physical injury to the victim) was 10 per 100,000 population. The rate for this offence has remained stable since 1983.

Figure 2.11

Non-Sexual Assault Incidents by Province, 1993 and 1994

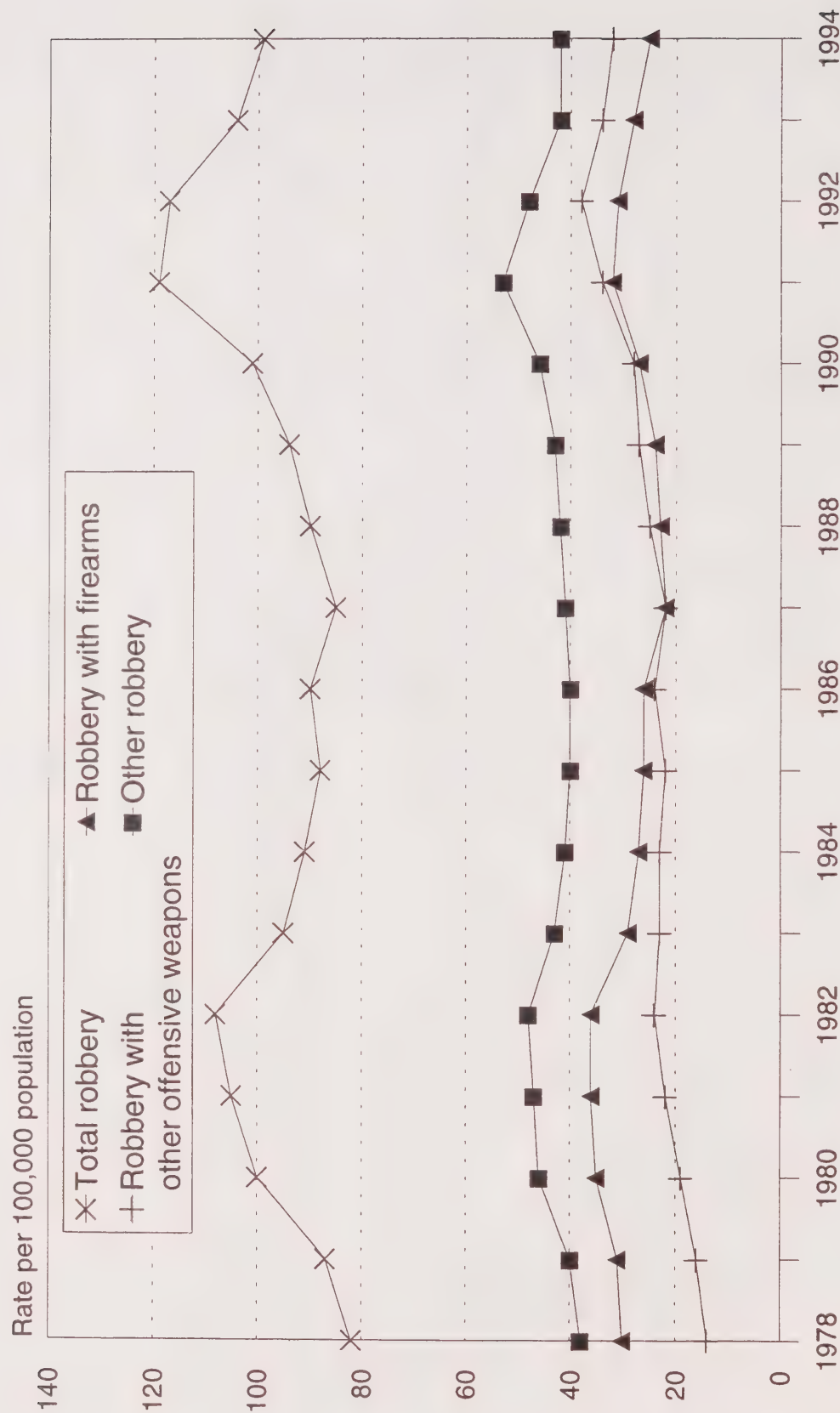


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1983, Bill C-127 redefined the physical assault sections of the Criminal Code, establishing three levels of physical assault: level 1 (minor assault), level 2 (incidents involving a weapon or resulting in bodily harm), and level 3 (aggravated assault).
- ◆ Among the provinces, Manitoba reported the highest assault rate per 100,000 population in both 1993 and 1994, while Quebec reported the lowest rate in each of these years.
- ◆ Between 1993 and 1994, the largest increase occurred in Nova Scotia (+5.4%). In contrast, Alberta reported the largest decrease in police-reported assault incidents (-7.8%).

Figure 2.12

Robbery Incidents, Canada, 1978 to 1994

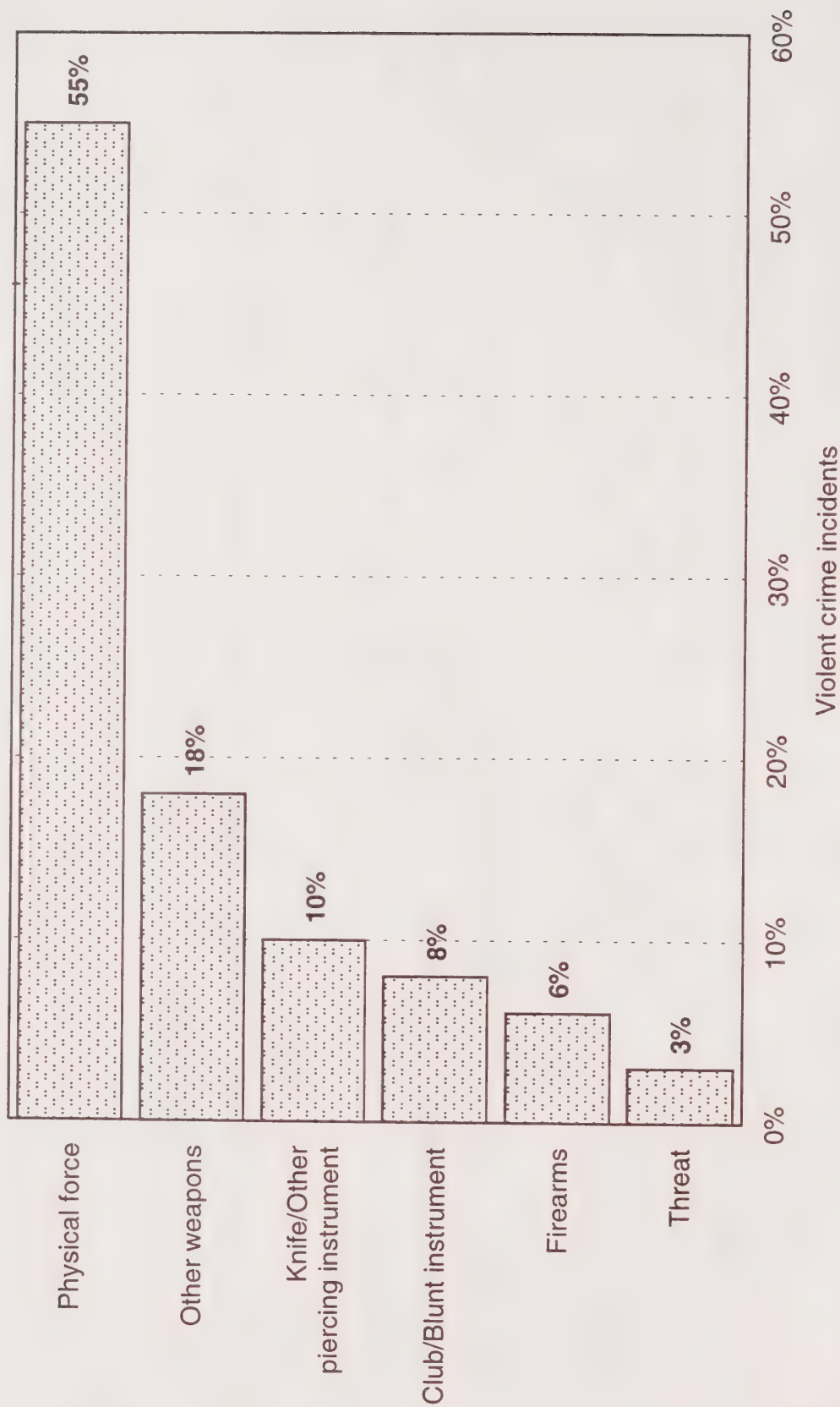


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol.15, No.12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, police reported a total of 28,888 incidents of robbery, or a rate of 99 incidents per 100,000 population. Robberies accounted for 10% of all violent incidents that year and the rate had increased 20% from the rate recorded in 1978, but had decreased 5% from 1993.
- ◆ In 1994, 26% of robbery incidents involved firearms and 32% involved other offensive weapons (e.g. knives, blunt objects). 42% of incidents involved no weapon. These proportions are similar to those of past years.
- ◆ The trend in the rate of robbery shows increases during years that correspond roughly with times of economic recession.

Figure 2.13

Weapon Present in Violent Crime, 1994*

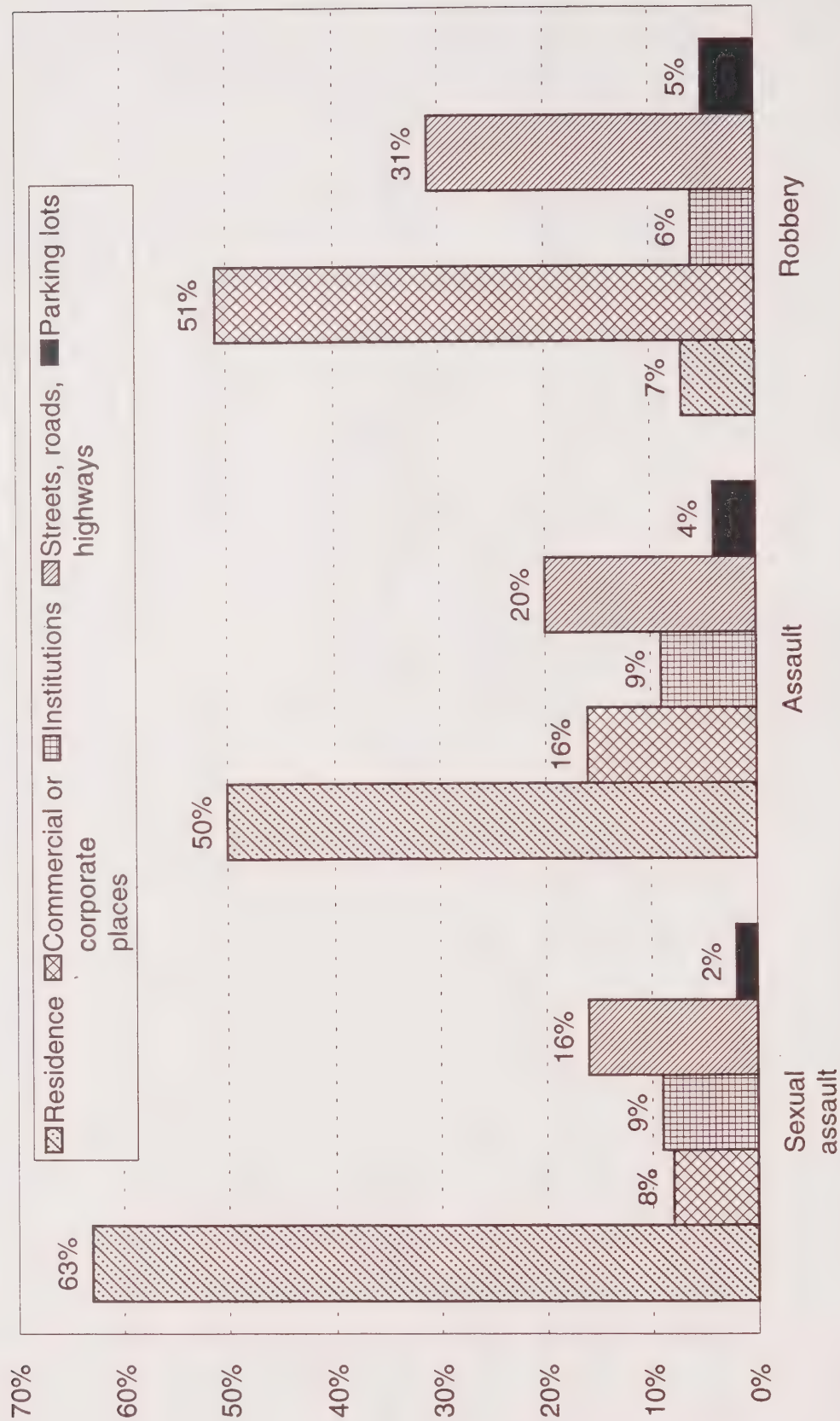


* Violent crime includes homicide, attempted murder, physical and sexual assaults, other assaults, robberies and abduction. Based on incidents reported by 111 police agencies to the Revised Uniform Crime Reporting survey database and which represent approximately 33% of the national volume of crime.
 Source: Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada, 1994.
 For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12. "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In over one-half of violent incidents reported to the 1994 Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, physical force was the most serious form of violence present; in 42% of incidents, a weapon was present (ie. firearm, knife, etc.) and in 3% of incidents, threats were the most serious form of violence.
- ◆ Weapons were most likely to be present in robbery incidents.

Figure 2.14

Selected Violent Incidents by Location, 1994*



* Based on incidents reported by 111 police agencies to the Revised Uniform Crime Reporting survey database and which represent approximately 33% of the national volume of crime.

Source: Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, 63% of sexual assaults took place in residences while 16% took place on the street.
- ◆ 50% of assaults occurred in residences, 20% on the streets and 16% in commercial or corporate places.
- ◆ 51% percent of robberies took place in commercial or corporate places and another 31% happened on the streets.
- ◆ Locations of incidents involving youths as accused differed from locations involving adults. For example 28% of youths involved in physical assaults were located on the street, and 34% were in public institutions. In comparison, less than 25% of adults accused of physical assaults were situated in these two locations combined. Moreover, while incidents involving youth charged with robbery most frequently took place on the street (46%), those involving adults most frequently took place in commercial\corporate places (64%).

Figure 2.15

Breaking and Entering Incidents, Canada, 1978 to 1994

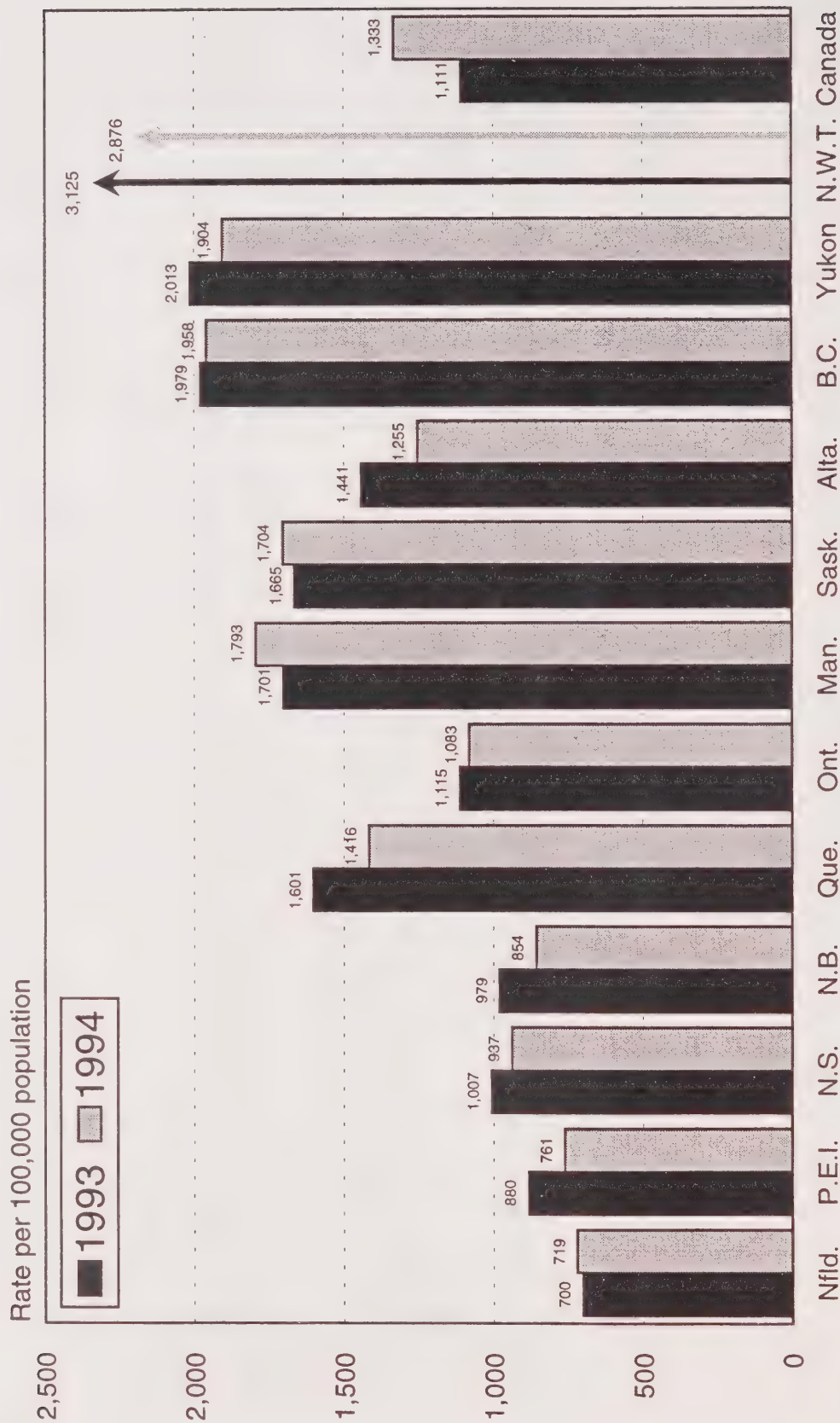


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, police reported 387,877 incidents of breaking and entering (B&E) which accounted for 25% of all property incidents.
- ◆ The B&E rate declined by 6% in 1994, marking the third consecutive year of decline. The rate of B&E incidents in a residence or business premise each declined by 6% from 1993, while the number of other types of B&E decreased by 2%.
- ◆ Breaking and entering incidents have low clearance rates. In 1994, only 10% were cleared by charge and an additional 5% were cleared otherwise.
- ◆ Breaking and entering is common among young people: 45% of persons charged with breaking and entering in 1994 were young people aged 12 to 17 years.

Figure 2.16

Breaking and Entering Incidents by Province, 1993 and 1994



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ Despite a 1% decrease in 1994, British Columbia reported the highest break and enter rate per 100,000 population for each year over the last decade. The Atlantic provinces have historically reported lower break and enter rates than Central or Western Canada.
- ◆ Between 1993 and 1994, the break and enter rate declined in all provinces except Manitoba (+5.5%), Newfoundland (+2.7%) and Saskatchewan (+2.3%).

Figure 2.17

Motor Vehicle Theft Incidents, Canada, 1980 to 1994

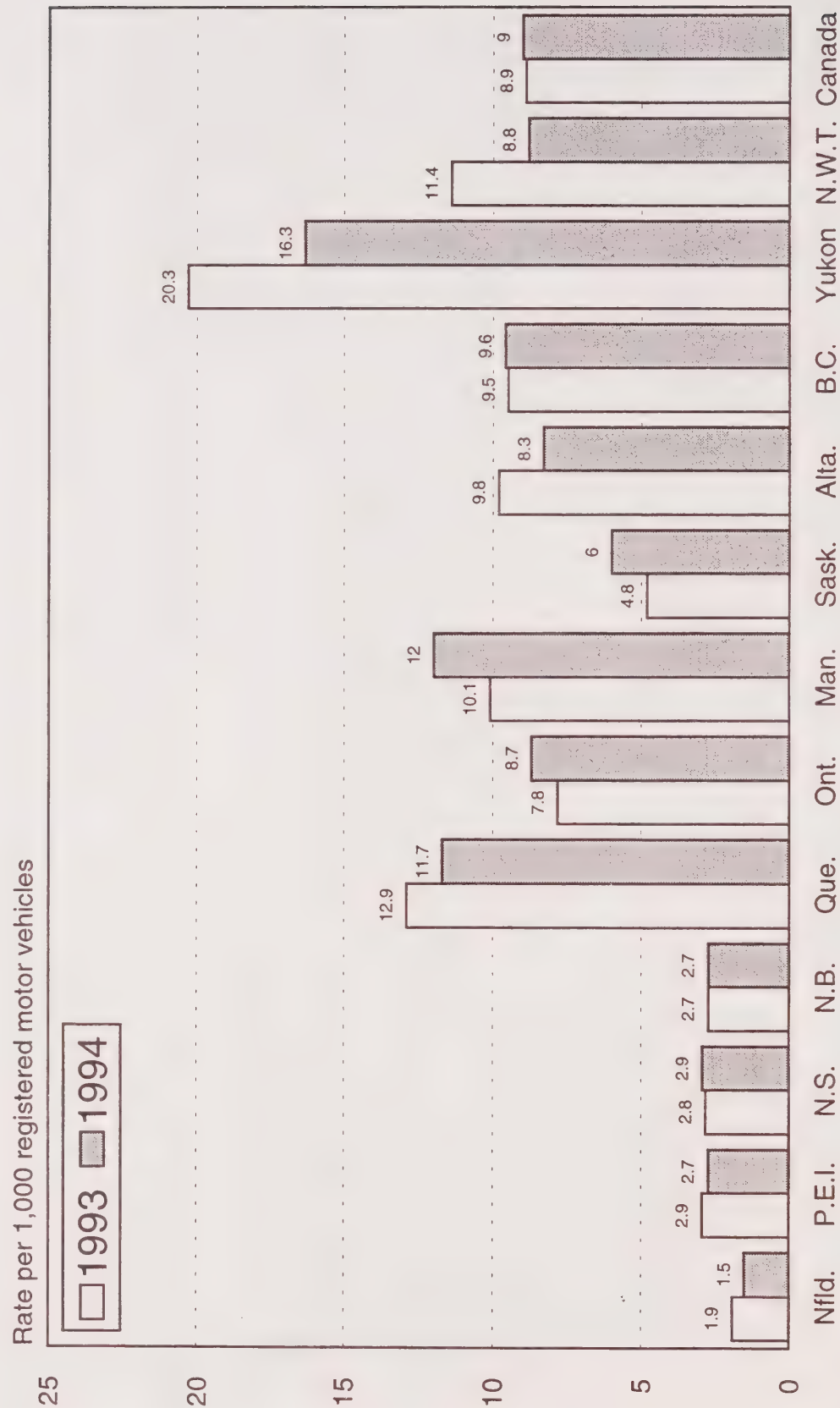


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 16, No. 2, "Motor Vehicle Crimes."

- ◆ In 1994, police reported a total of 159,663 incidents of motor vehicle theft. This number, the highest ever reported, accounted for 10% of all property crimes in 1994.
- ◆ The rate of theft remained relatively unchanged during the 1980's before beginning to rise in the 1990's. The rate of vehicles stolen averaged 5.3 per 1,000 registrations between 1980 and 1989 compared with an average rate of 8.2 between 1990 and 1994. The 1994 rate reached a high of 9.0 motor vehicle thefts for every 1,000 registrations.
- ◆ In 1994, youths aged 12 to 17 years accounted for almost half of the persons charged with motor vehicle theft. However, rarely is a suspect identified in motor vehicle theft incidents. In 1994, only 10% of motor vehicle thefts were solved by the police.
- ◆ The annual rate of motor vehicle thefts per 1,000 vehicle registrations has been higher in Canada than in the United States for each year since 1992. In Canada, the rate increased from 5.5 thefts per 1,000 registered motor vehicles in 1988 to 9.0 in 1994, the sixth consecutive annual rate increase. By comparison, the American rate declined for a third straight year, dropping from 7.8 per 1,000 in 1988 to 7.7 in 1994.

Figure 2.18

Rate of Motor Vehicle Thefts per 1,000 Registered Motor Vehicles by Province, 1993 and 1994

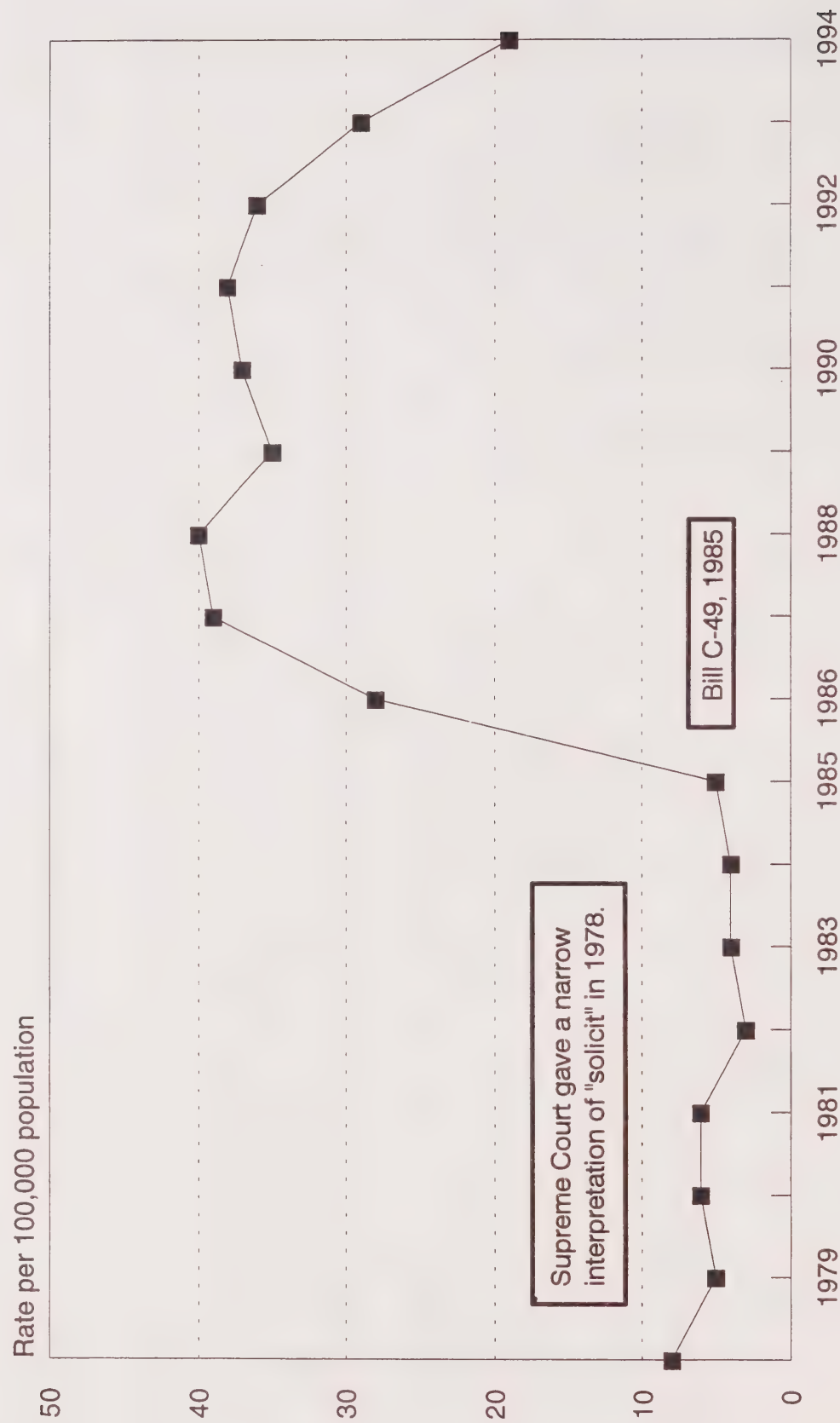


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 16, No. 2, "Motor Vehicle Crimes."

- ◆ Owners of motor vehicles in Manitoba were the most likely to have had a motor vehicle stolen in 1994: 12.0 of every 1,000 registered in the province were stolen. The second highest theft rate was in Quebec, where a rate of 11.7 per 1,000 vehicles were stolen. These rates represent a slight change in the pattern during the last decade when Quebec consistently recorded the highest rate.
- ◆ Historically, the Atlantic provinces report rates lower than Central or Western Canada. In 1994, rates ranged from a low of 1.5 in Newfoundland to a high of 2.9 in Nova Scotia.
- ◆ The Ontario motor vehicle theft rate has increased each year since 1987.

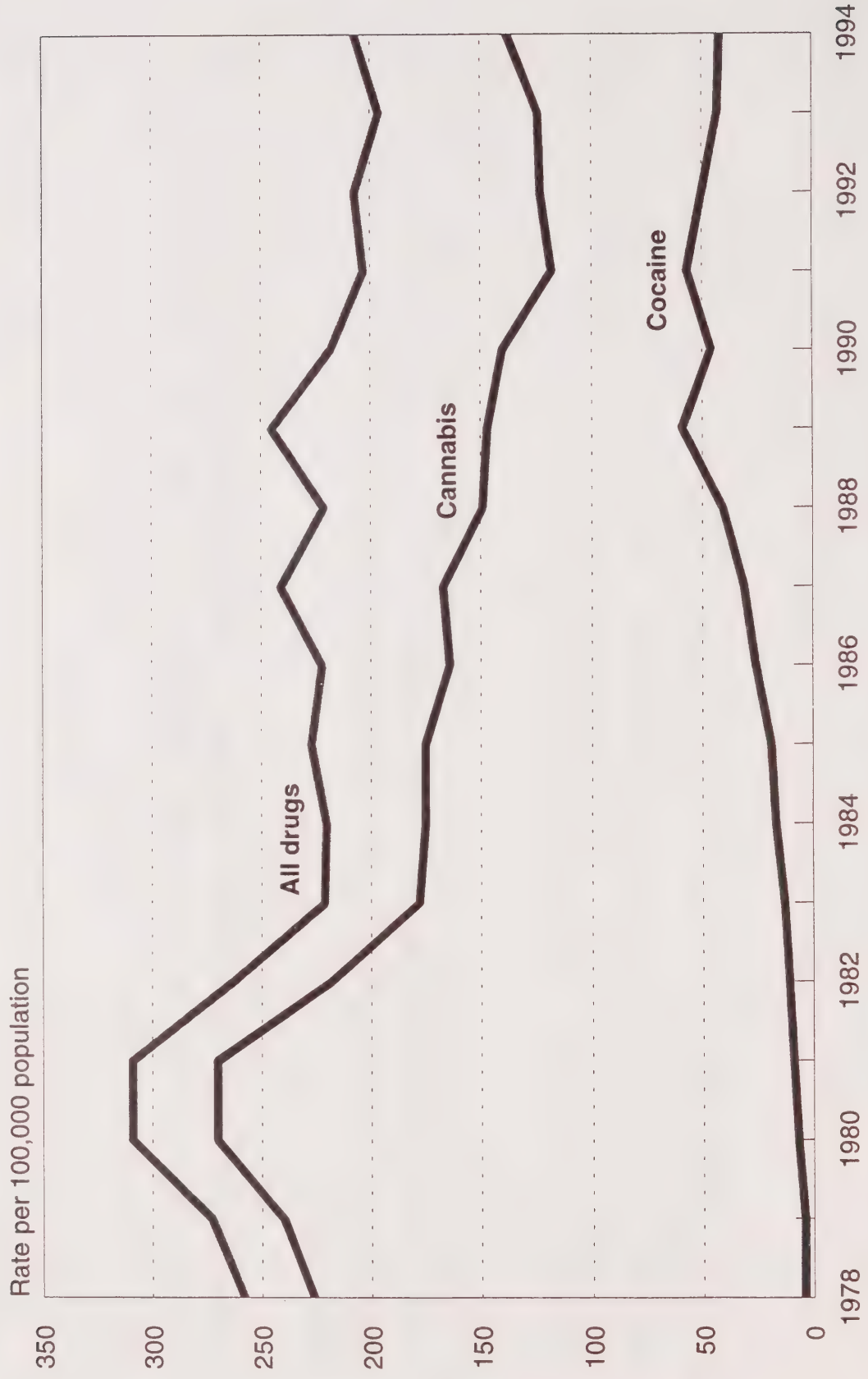
Figure 2.19

Prostitution Incidents, Canada, 1978 to 1994



- ◆ In 1985, Bill C-49 expanded the definition of soliciting to include the act of stopping or attempting to stop a person to communicate for the purpose of engaging in prostitution. This amendment resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of prostitution related incidents after 1985.
- ◆ In 1994, police reported a total of 5,588 prostitution related incidents. The offence of "communication" accounted for 91% of incidents. The remaining incidents included bawdy house and procuring (i.e. pimping) offences.
- ◆ While the rate of prostitution related offences rose steadily after 1985 to reach a peak of 40 per 100,000 population in 1988, the rate has since decreased to a rate of 19 per 100,000 population in 1994.
- ◆ Prostitution offences are highly sensitive to changes in police enforcement practices.

Figure 2.20
Drug Incidents, Canada, 1978 to 1994



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 6, "Drug Use and Crime."

- ◆ In 1994, police reported 60,594 incidents where a drug violation was the most serious offence. These incidents account for only 2% of federal statute incidents reported by police (excluding Criminal Code traffic offences) that year.
- ◆ During the past decade, the rate of drug-related incidents reached a high in 1989 of 245 per 100,000 population and gradually declined to 196 per 100,000 population in 1993. The 1994 rate of 207 per 100,000 is a 6% increase from 1993, largely due to an increase in cannabis incidents.
- ◆ Cannabis has historically accounted for the majority of drug incidents reported by police. While cannabis incidents accounted for 68% of all drug incidents in 1994, this proportion is down from 88% in 1978. Cocaine incidents accounted for 20% of all drug incidents in 1994 -- an increase from 2% in 1978. Incidents involving heroin (3%) and other drugs (10%) accounted for the remaining incidents in 1994.
- ◆ Drug possession accounted for 62% of the drug related incidents; trafficking accounted for 28%; cultivation 8% and importation 2%.

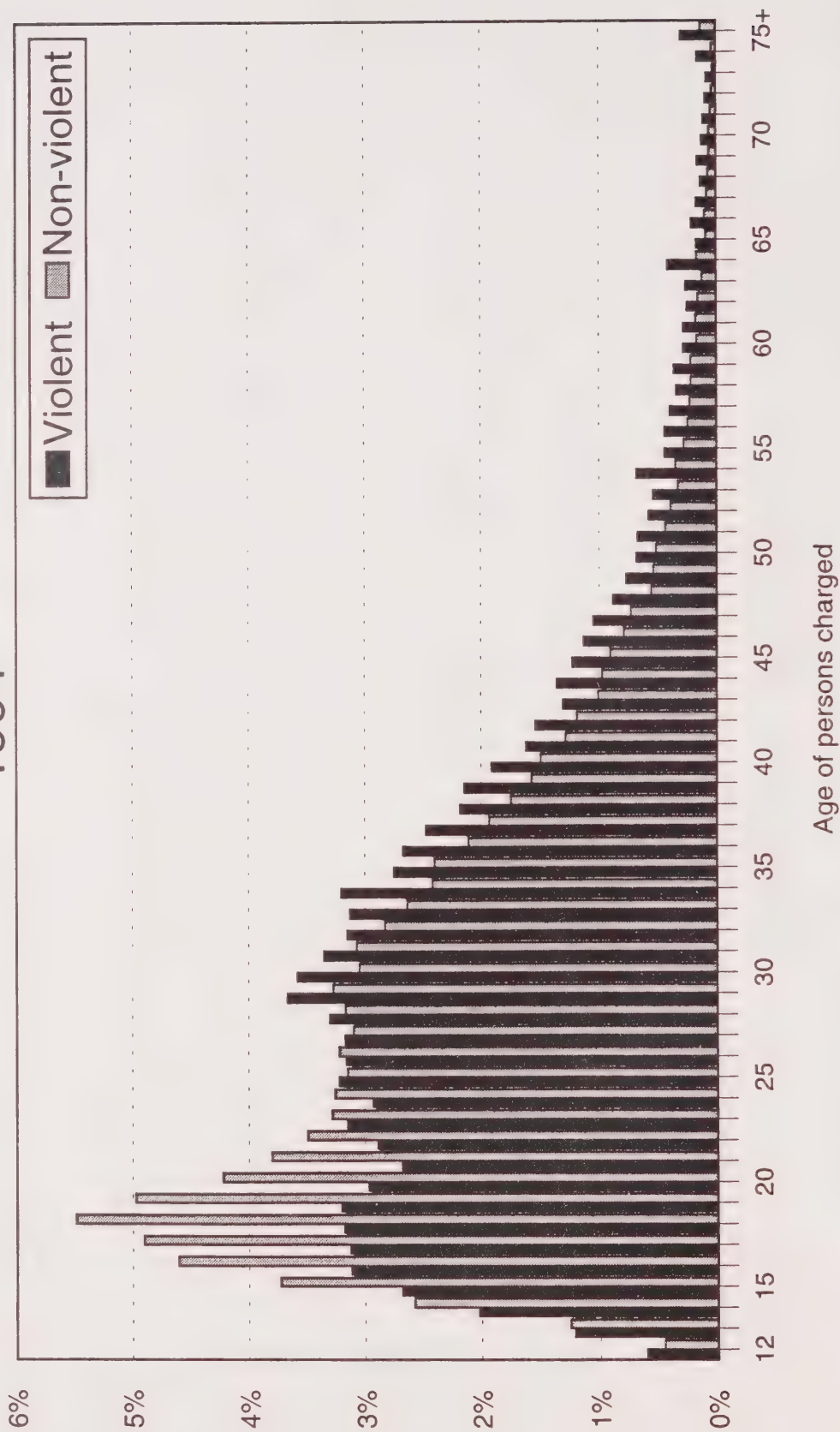


Section 2b:

THE ACCUSED

Figure 2.21

Age of Persons Charged*, Violent and Non-Violent Incidents, 1994**



* Excludes cases where age is unknown.

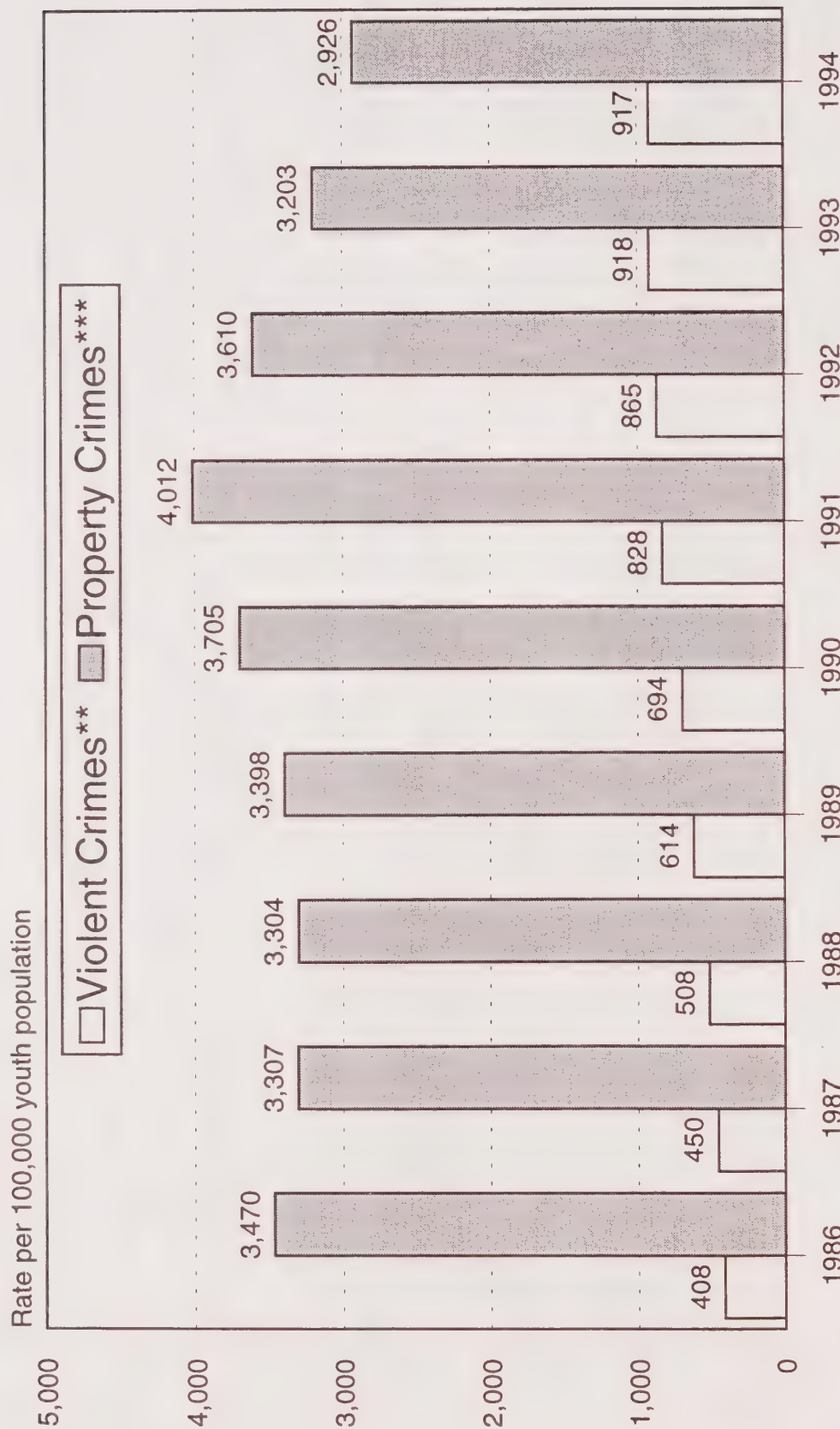
** Based on incidents reported by 111 police agencies to the Revised Uniform Crime Reporting survey database and which represent approximately 33% of the national volume of crime.

Source: Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ The 1994 Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey showed that persons charged with violent crimes tended to be older than persons charged with non-violent crimes. Persons charged with non-violent crimes (e.g. break and enter, mischief) had a median age of 23 years while those accused of violent crime had a median age of 29 years.
- ◆ Non-violent crimes are more often committed by a youth aged 15 to 21 years. Persons 18 years of age accounted for the largest proportion of any individual age group of persons charged with non-violent crime.
- ◆ The peak ages for persons charged with violent crimes in 1994 were 29 and 30 years of age. Persons aged 15 to 28 accounted for a relatively high proportion of violent incidents. The involvement of persons over the age of 30 in violent crime gradually decreased with age.

Figure 2.22

Rate of Youths Charged* by Type of Crime, Canada, 1986 to 1994



* Rates based on youth population 12 to 17 years of age.

** Violent crime includes homicide, attempted murder, physical and sexual assaults, other assaults, robberies and abduction.

*** Property crime includes breaking and entering, theft of motor vehicles, theft over \$1,000 and under, possession of stolen goods, and fraud.

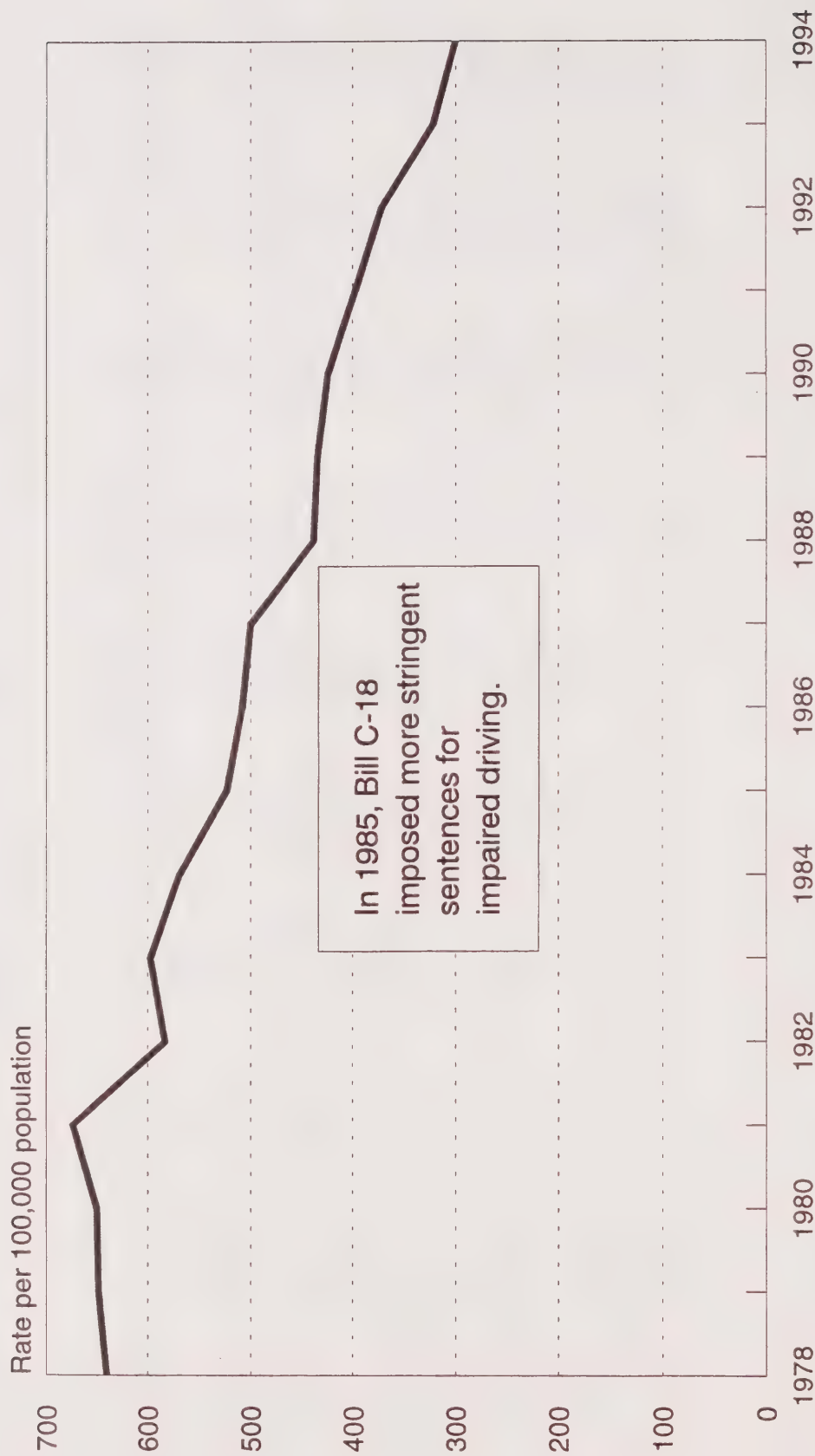
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, 21,656 youths were charged in violent incidents, translating into a rate of 917 youths charged per 100,000 youths.
- ◆ The rate of youths charged in violent crimes in 1994 decreased by less than 1% below the previous year, marking the first year since 1986 where the rate showed no increase. Between 1986 and 1994, there has been an average annual increase of 11% in the rate of youth charged in violent incidents.
- ◆ 18% of youths charged with Criminal Code incidents in 1994 were charged with violent crimes. About one-half of youths charged with violent crimes were charged with assault level 1 (minor assault).
- ◆ In 1994, 69,045 youths (12 to 17 years) were charged in property incidents, translating into a rate of 2,926 youths charged per 100,000 youths.
- ◆ The rate of youths charged in property crimes in 1994 decreased 9% below the previous year, marking the third consecutive annual decline. Between 1986 and 1994, there has been an average annual decrease of 2% in the rate of youth charged in property crimes.

Figure 2.23

Rate of Persons Charged with Impaired Driving, Canada, 1978 to 1994



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol.15, No.14, "Impaired Driving in Canada - 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, there were 87,383 persons charged with impaired driving offences. The rate of persons charged with this crime in 1994 was 300 for every 100,000 persons, representing a 7% decrease below the previous year.
- ◆ 1994 marked the eleventh consecutive annual decrease in the rate of persons charged with impaired driving. Between 1978 and 1993, the average annual decrease in the rate of persons charged with impaired driving was 4%.
- ◆ In 1985, Bill C-18 imposed more stringent sentences for drinking and driving. Despite the severity of penalties, impaired driving offences are highly sensitive to changes in police enforcement practices.

Figure 2.24

Persons Charged with Impaired Operation by Province, 1993 and 1994



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol.15, No.14, "Impaired Driving in Canada - 1994."

- ◆ In 1994, 384 persons were charged per 100,000 persons aged 16 and older. Provincial rates varied, ranging from a high of 723 in Saskatchewan to 297 in Ontario. Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec were the only jurisdictions with rates below the national average.
- ◆ Between 1984 and 1994, there was a 38% decrease in the number of persons charged nationally. All jurisdictions experienced a decrease, ranging from -4% in Quebec to -61% in Prince Edward Island.

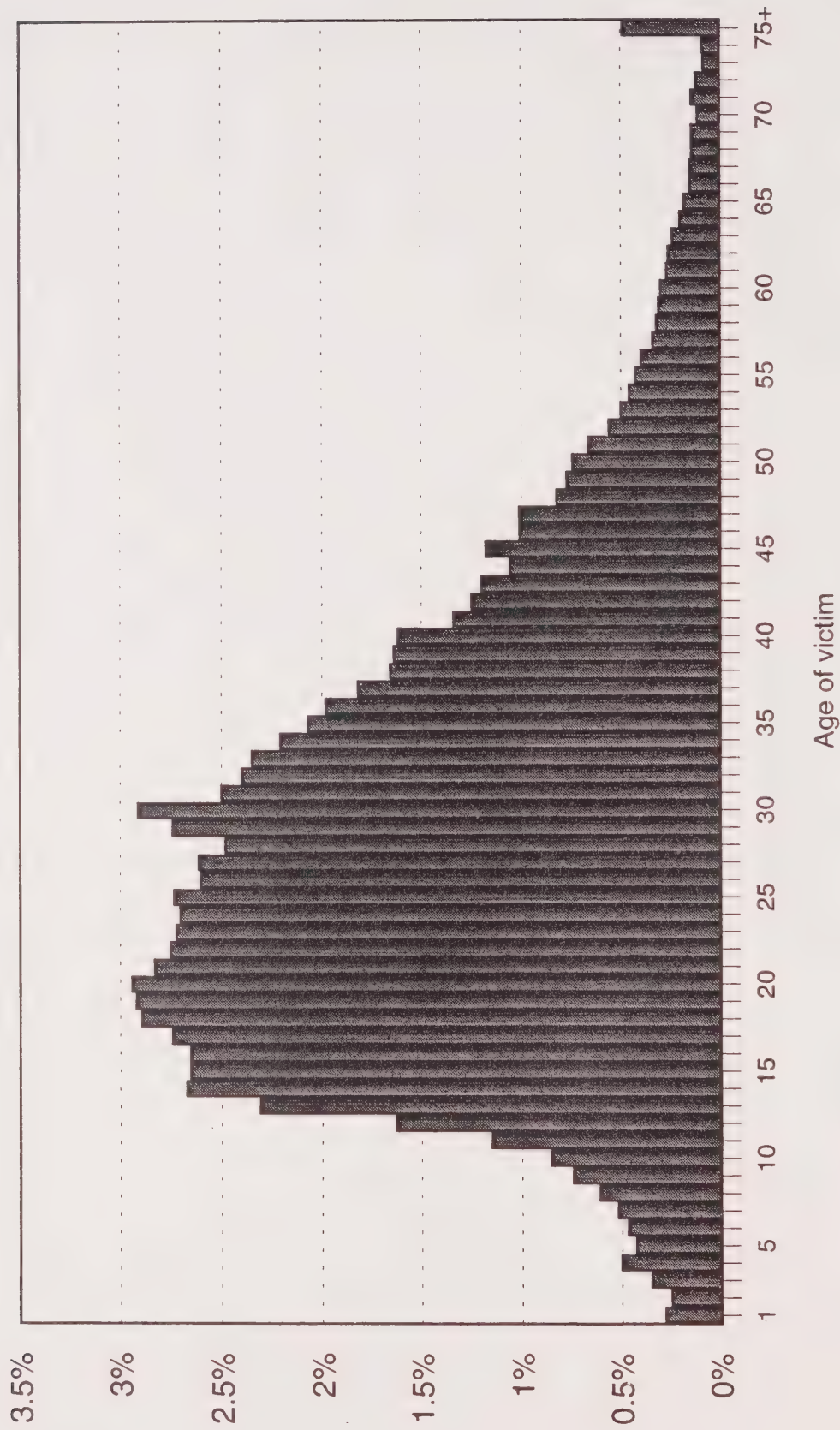


Section 2c:

THE VICTIM

Figure 2.25

Victims of Violent Crime by Age, 1994*

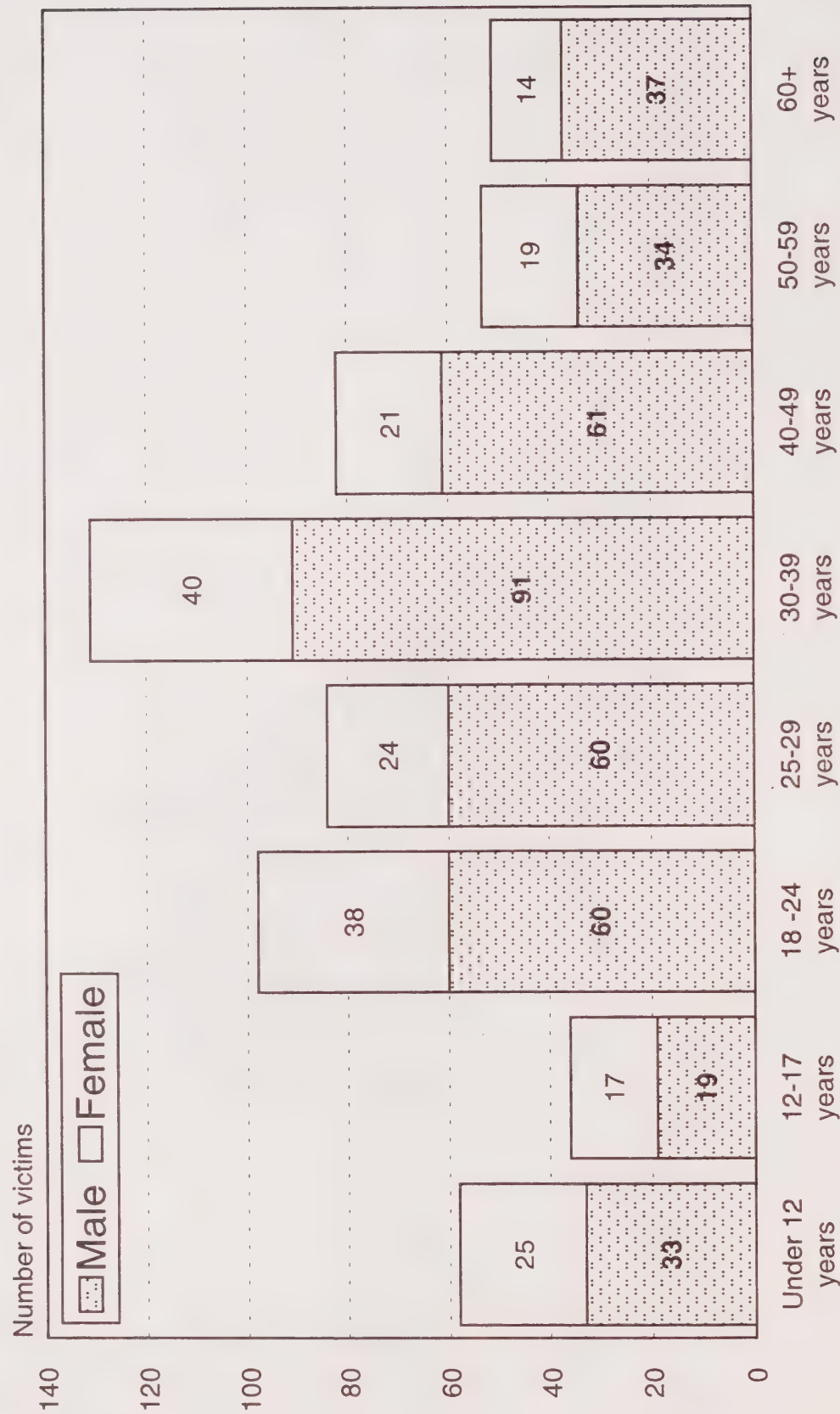


* Based on incidents reported by 111 police agencies to the Revised Uniform Crime Reporting survey database and which represent approximately 33% of the national volume of crime.
Source: Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 12, "Canadian Crime Statistics, 1994."

- ◆ The 1994 Revised Uniform Crime Reporting Survey showed that victims of violent crime tended to be aged 14 to 32 years. The median age of violent crime victims was 27 years of age. The peak ages of victims of violent crime were 20 and 30 years of age.
- ◆ Victims of sexual assault tended to be slightly younger than other victims of violent crime.

Figure 2.26

Victims of Homicide by Age and Gender, Canada, 1994



Source: Homicide Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 11, "Homicide in Canada, 1994."

- ◆ Consistent with previous years, two-thirds of all victims of homicide in 1994 were male and one-third were female. There was very little difference between male and female victims in terms of median age: 28 years was the median age for female victims and 32 for males.
- ◆ In 1994, the age of greatest risk of being a homicide victim was during the first year of life. The number of victims then declines up to the age of 12 and then begins increasing again up to the age of 25. Although children under one year of age were at greatest risk of being killed in 1994 as well as 1993, this pattern does not hold true for all years.

Figure 2.27

Homicides by Accused-Victim Relationship, Canada, 1984 to 1994



* Includes unknown relationships prior to 1991.

Source: Homicide Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 15, No. 11, "Homicide in Canada, 1994."

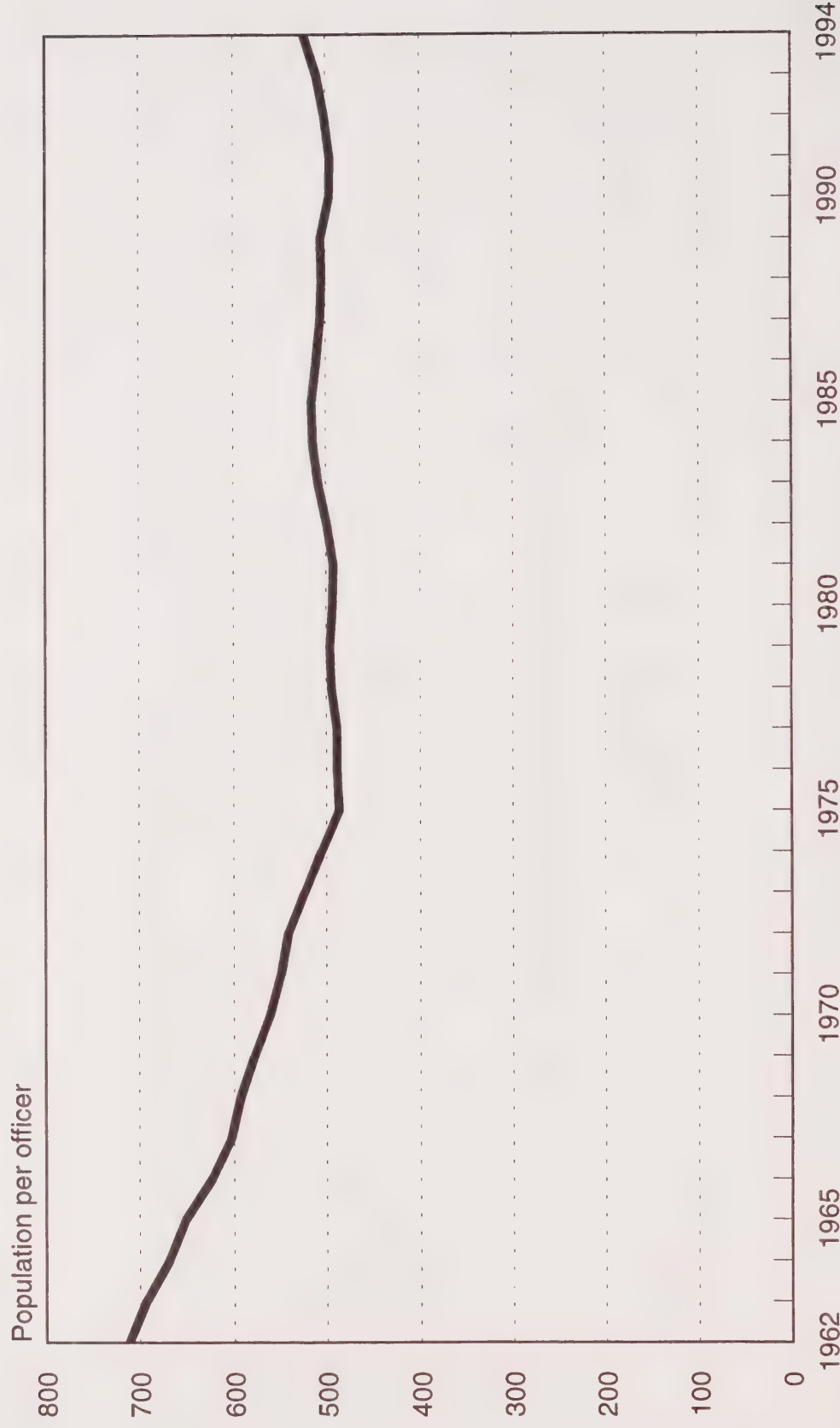
- ◆ Homicides are roughly 5 times more likely to occur at the hands of someone known to the victim than at the hands of a stranger.
- ◆ Of the homicides in 1994 where an accused was identified, 40% of the victims were killed by a spouse or other family member (33% in 1993), 46% were killed by an acquaintance (51% in 1993) and 13% were killed by strangers (15% in 1993).
- ◆ Spousal homicides continue to account for one out of every six solved homicides. In 1994, women were the victims in 76% of spousal homicides.
- ◆ The proportion of homicides committed by a stranger has remained relatively stable from 1984 to 1994, ranging from 13% to 18%.



Section 3:

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

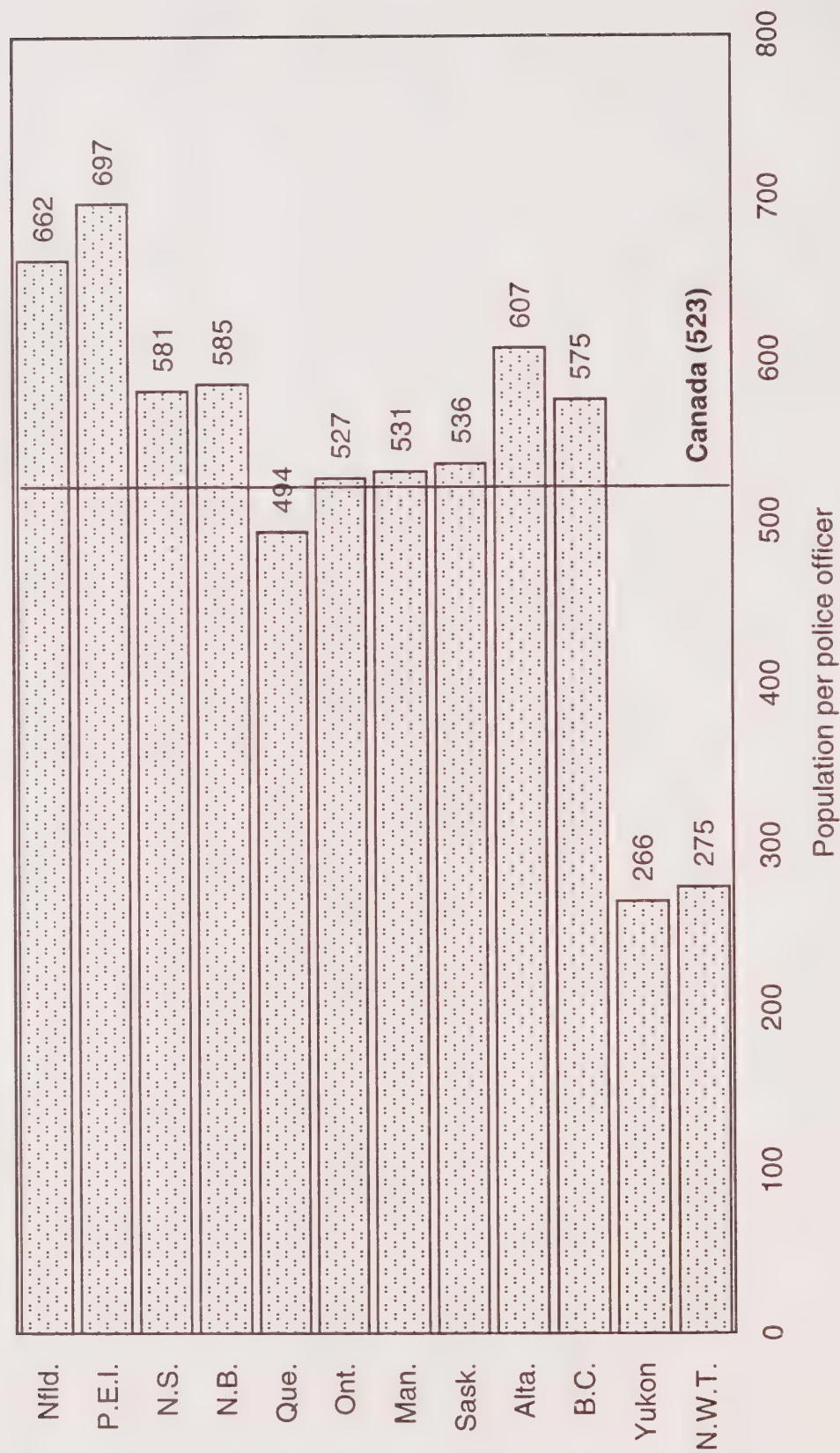
Figure 3.1
Population Per Police Officer, 1962 to 1994



- ◆ In 1994, there were 55,946 police officers in Canada, 2% (955) fewer than the previous year. 1994 marked the second consecutive decrease since 1984.
- ◆ Between 1962 and 1975, the number of Canadians per police officer showed consistent decreases from 711 to 486 Canadians per police officer. However, from 1975 to 1985, this ratio increased slightly reaching 515 people per police officer in 1985.
- ◆ In 1994, there were 523 persons for each police officer, the highest ratio since 1974.

Figure 3.2

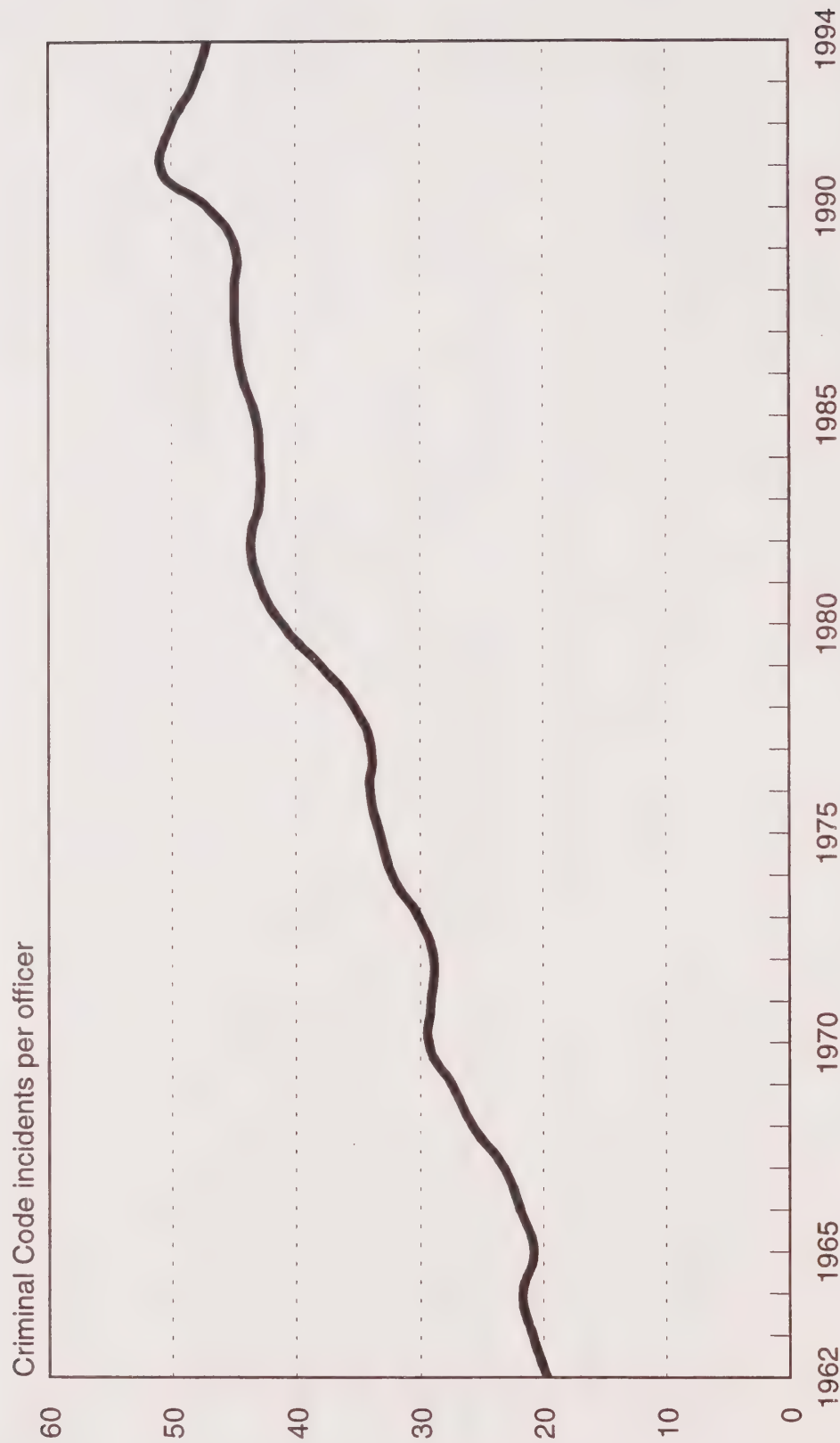
Population per Police Officer, Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 1994



Source: Police Administration Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol.16, No.1, "Police Personnel and Expenditures in Canada, 1994."

- ◆ Consistent with 1993, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland had the highest police officer to population ratios in 1994 while the Yukon and the Northwest Territories had the lowest.
- ◆ Of the 10 provinces, Quebec had the lowest ratio, followed by Ontario.
- ◆ Between 1993 and 1994, ratios declined in all jurisdictions except Newfoundland (+0.7%), Nova Scotia (+0.5%), New Brunswick (+0.4%) and British Columbia (+1%). The ratio for Prince Edward Island remained the same. Declines in the remaining jurisdictions ranged from -0.1% to -7%.

Figure 3.3
 Number of Criminal Code Incidents per
 Police Officer, Canada, 1962 to 1994



- ◆ The number of Criminal Code incidents per officer steadily increased from 20 in 1962 to a peak of 51.1 in 1991, despite a large increase in the number of officers between 1962 and 1975.
- ◆ The ratio of Criminal Code incidents per officer in 1994 was two-and-one-half times higher than in 1962.
- ◆ Despite the increasing ratio of incidents per police officer since 1962, the overall clearance rate for all forces has remained relatively constant over the last 31 years: 37% in 1962 and 35% in 1994.

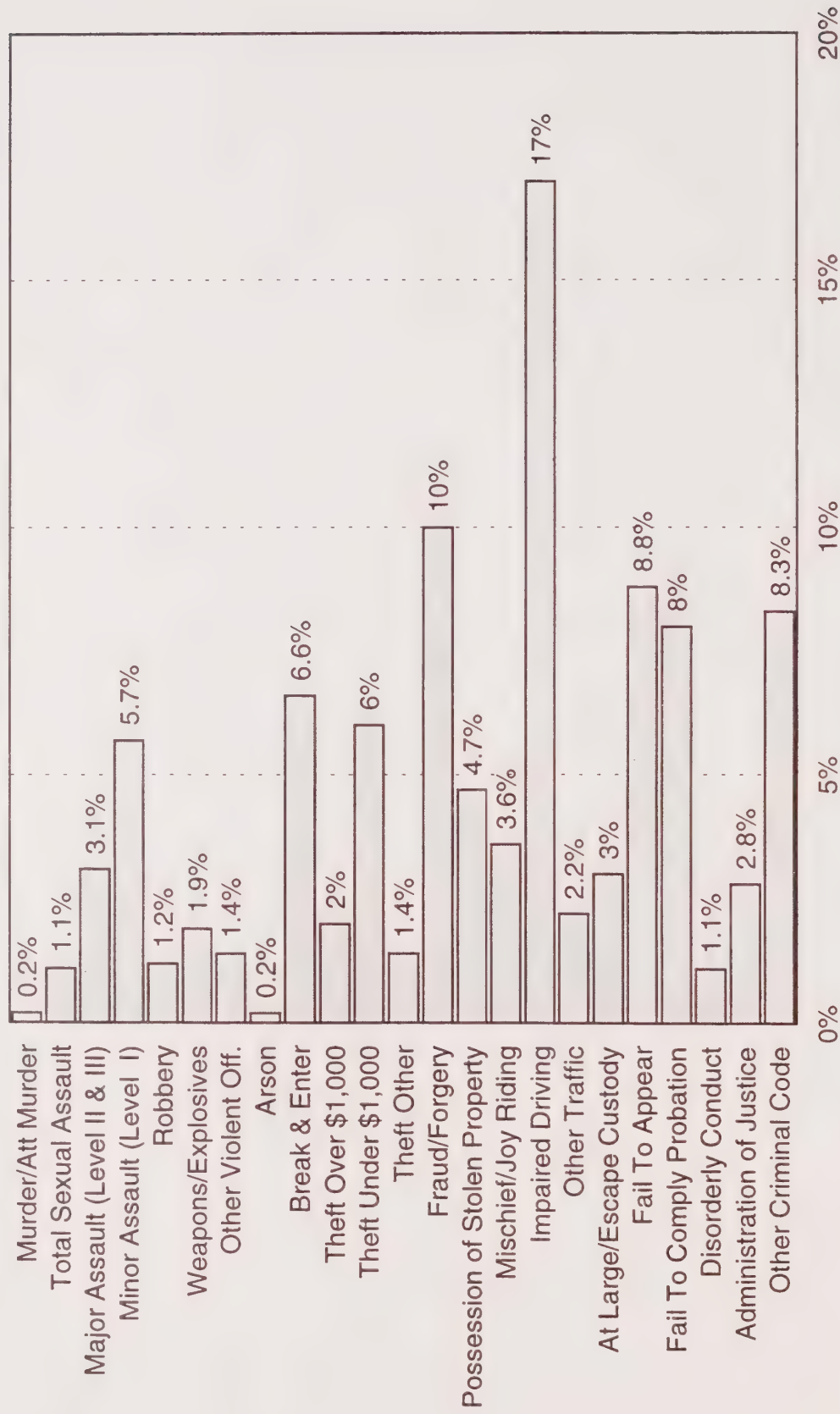


Section 4:

ADULT COURT ACTIVITY IN CANADA

Figure 4.1

Charges Disposed of in Adult Provincial Court, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



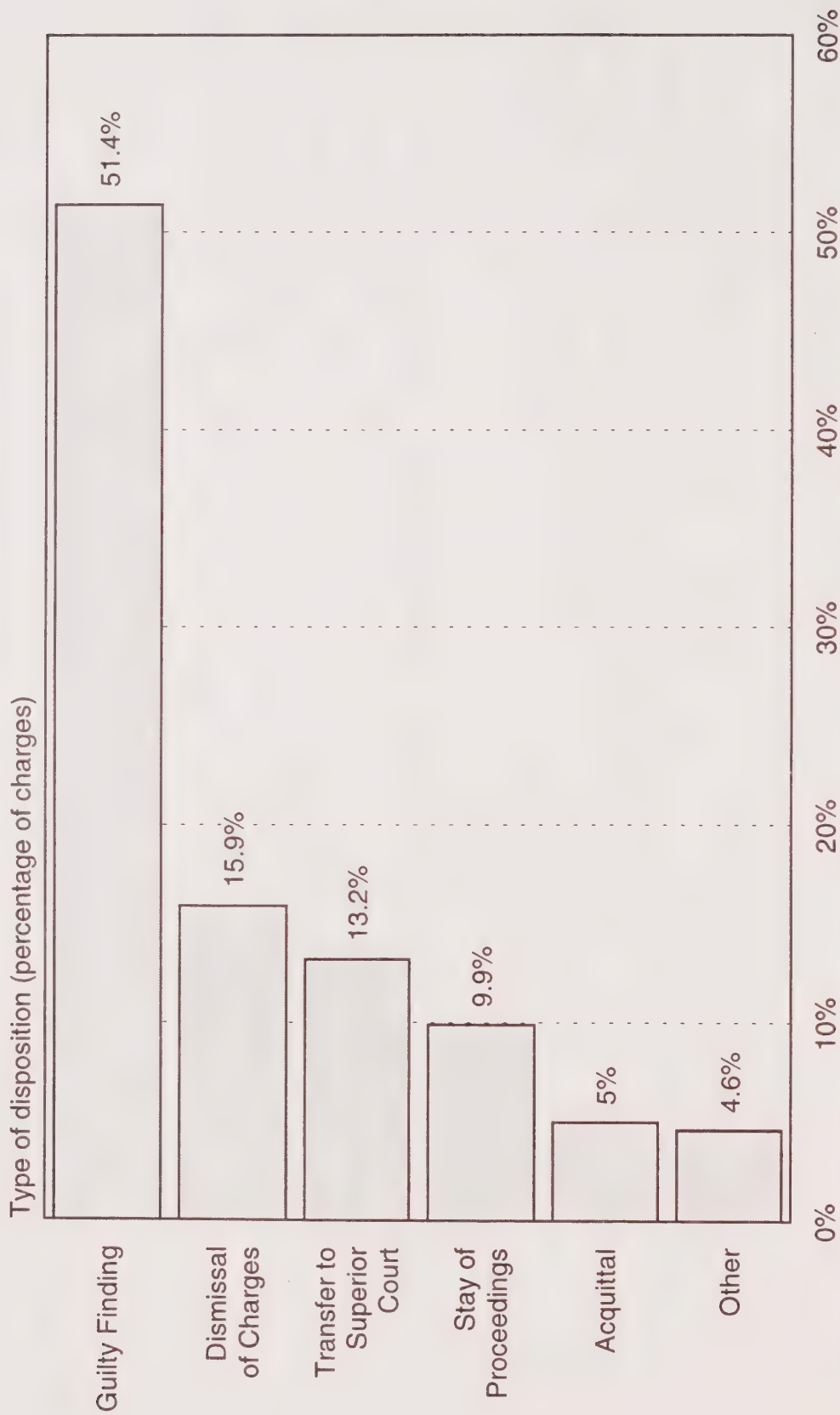
* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ In 1993, approximately 15% of all charges disposed of in adult provincial criminal courts were related to violent offences, 34% were for property crimes, 19% for Criminal Code traffic offences, 17% for fail to appear and fail to comply with a probation order, and 15% were for other Criminal Code offences.
- ◆ Assault level 1 (common assault) was the most common violent offence representing 5.7% of all Criminal Code charges and 40% of all violent charges disposed of in provincial court. Breaking and entering was the most common property offence representing 6.6% of all Criminal Code charges and 20% of all property charges disposed of in provincial court.
- ◆ Impaired driving was the single largest offence disposed of in provincial court. Its share of total offences ranged from 14% in Quebec to 32% in Prince Edward Island.

Figure 4.2

Adult Provincial Court Dispositions, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ In 1993, more than one-half of all Criminal Code charges resulted in a finding of guilt.
- ◆ Conviction rates varied by type of offence: 37% of violent offences ended in conviction, compared to 52% of property crimes.
- ◆ The proportion of Criminal Code charges resulting in conviction varied by jurisdiction, ranging from a high of 65% in Prince Edward Island to a low of 49% in the Yukon.

Figure 4.3
Adult Criminal Cases by Most Serious Sentence,
Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*

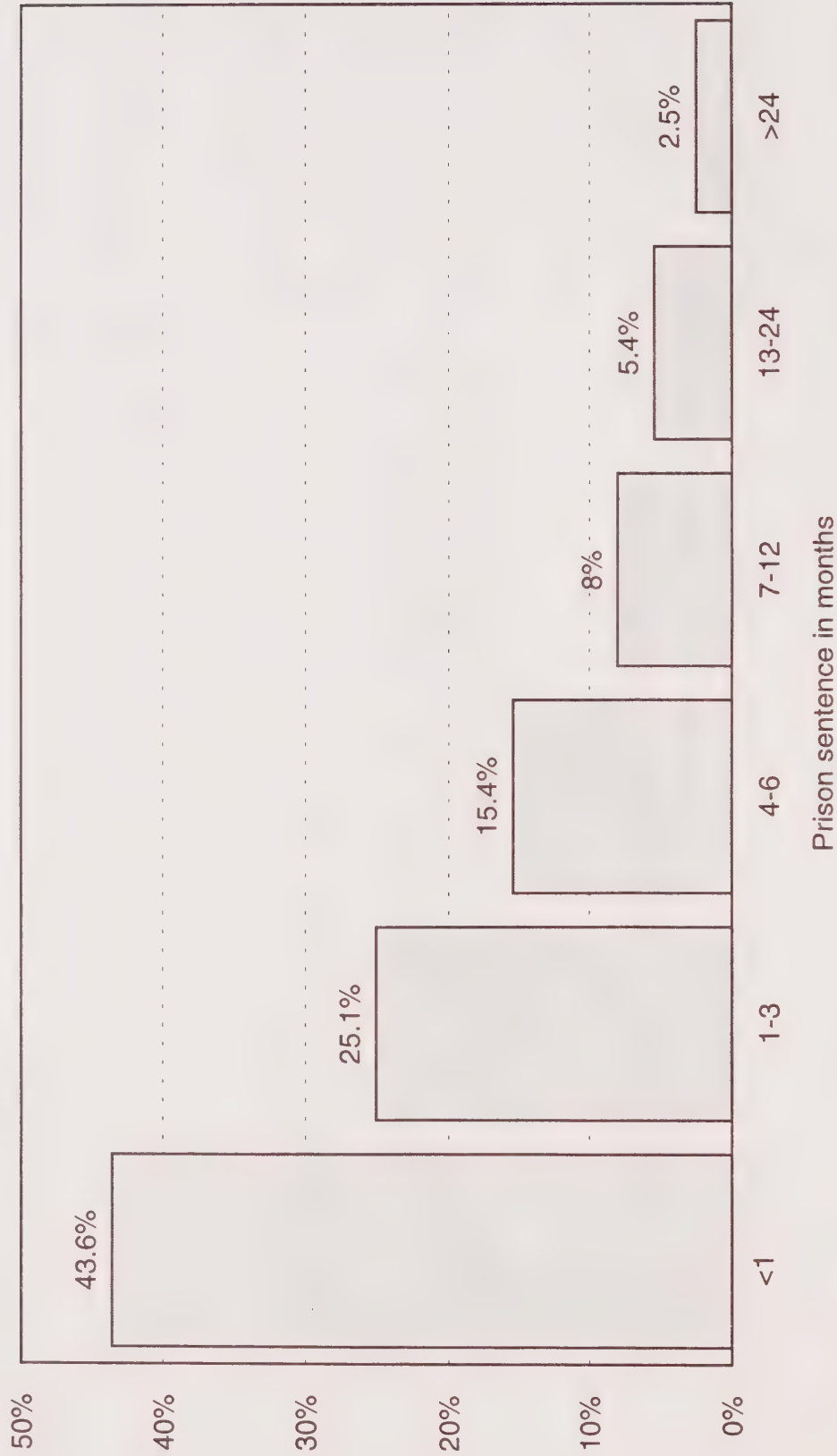


* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.
 Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
 For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ The Most Serious Sentence (MSS) received in Criminal Code cases is relatively evenly distributed between prison, probation and fine. Restitution and other sentences are rarely the most serious sentence imposed.
- ◆ Variations in the MSS can be observed among different offence types. For example, 34% of property offences received a prison term as the MSS, but only 18% of Criminal Code traffic offences received a prison sentence. In comparison, 65% of Criminal Code traffic offences received a fine as the MSS compared to only 22% of property crimes.
- ◆ Most Serious Sentences also vary among jurisdictions. For example, 55% of violent offences received a prison term as the MSS in Prince Edward Island while only 30% of violent offences received a prison term in Quebec.

Figure 4.4

Adult Criminal Cases by Length of Prison Sentence, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



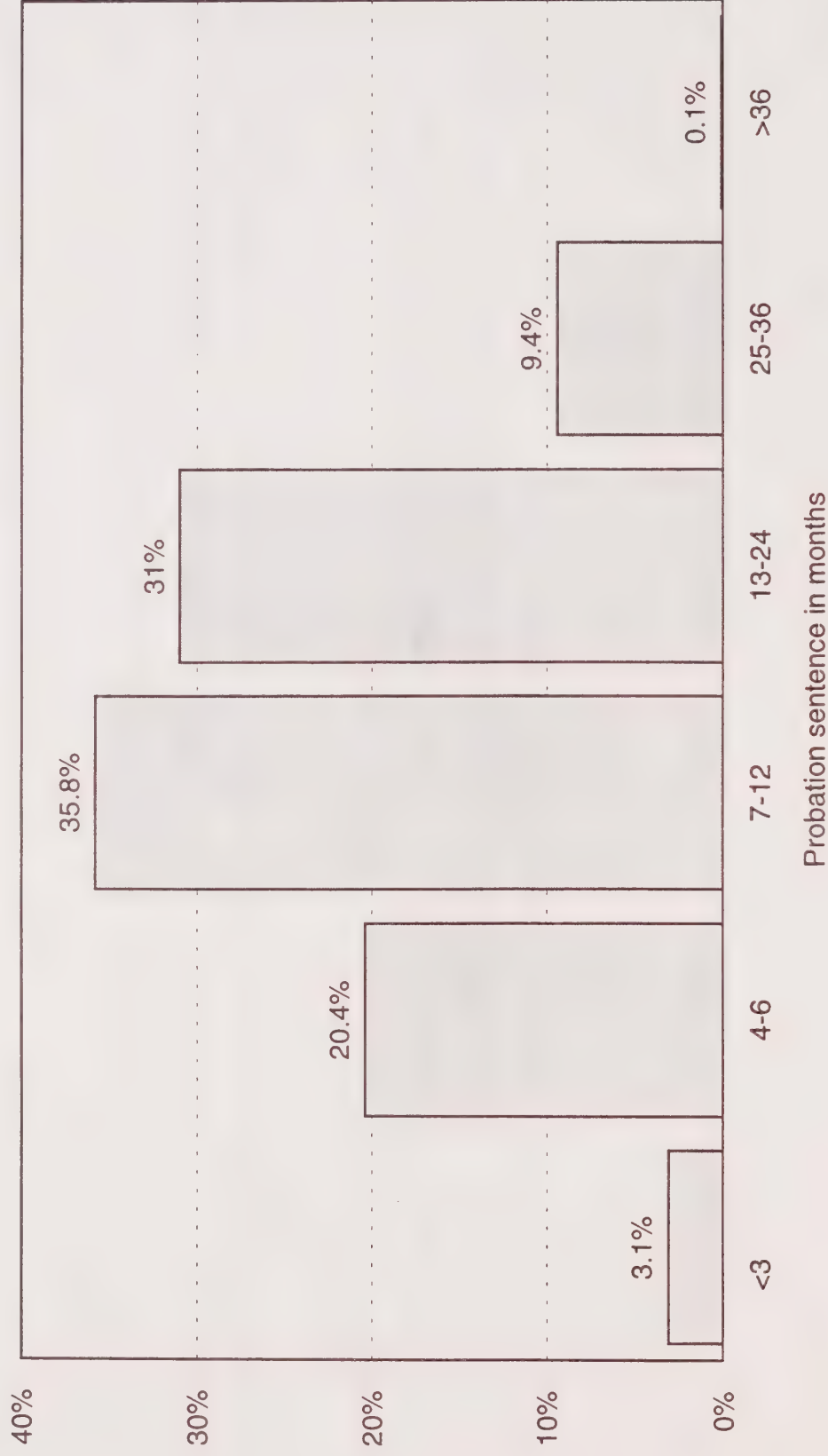
* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ Almost half of all prison sentences are for a term of less than one month.
- ◆ Prison sentences for violent offences tend to be longer than for other Criminal Code offences: 9.2% of violent offences received a prison term of more than 2 years while only 2.4% of property offences received such sentences.
- ◆ Sentencing patterns vary among jurisdictions. For example, 72% of Criminal Code offences received a sentence length of less than 1 month in Prince Edward Island compared to 40% in Saskatchewan.

Figure 4.5

Adult Criminal Cases by Length of Probation Sentence, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



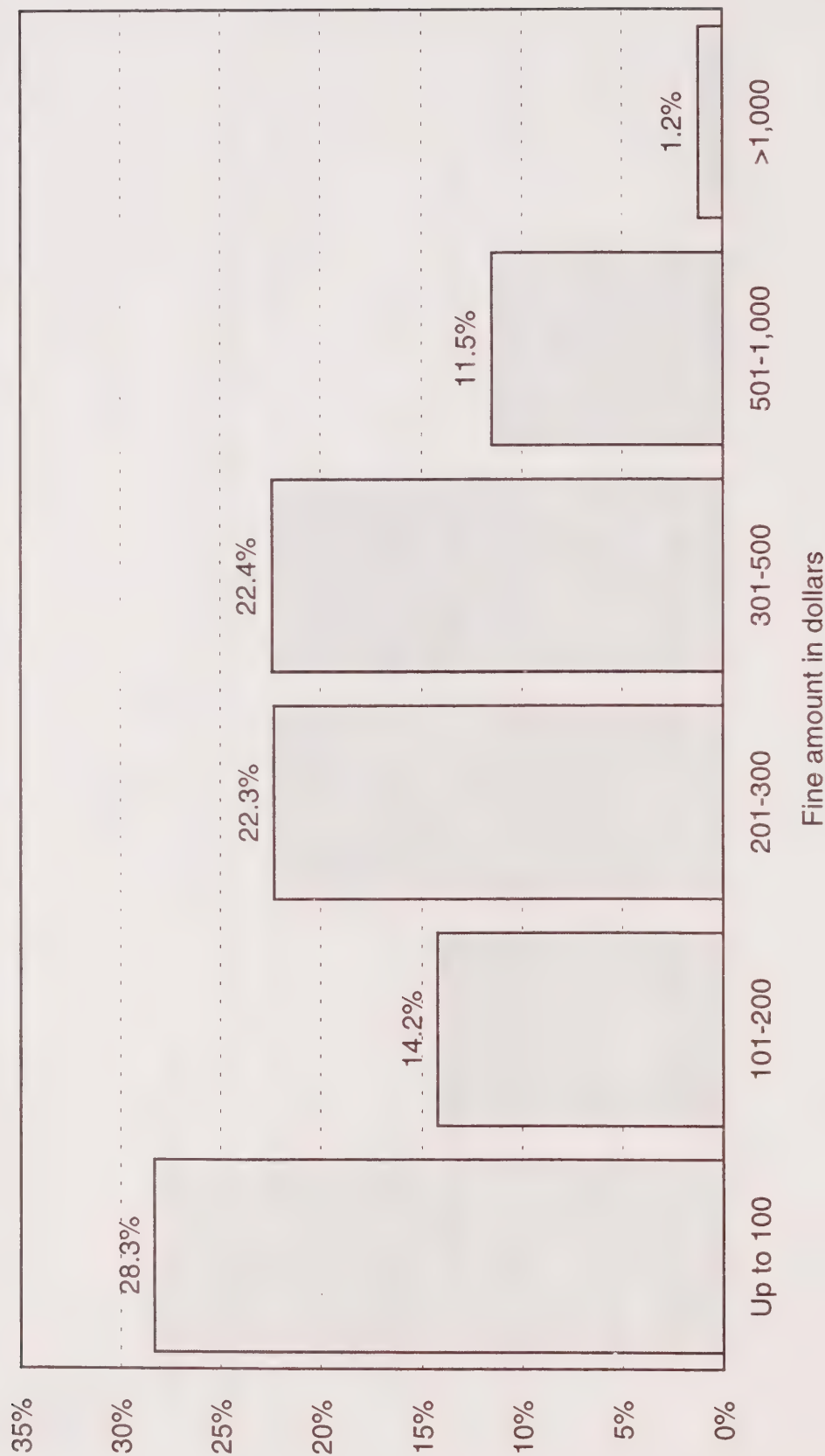
* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ More than 75% of all probation sentences are for terms exceeding 6 months. Terms of 6 to 12 months were the most common with 36% of probation sentences falling into this category.
- ◆ 50% of all Criminal Code traffic probation sentences fell into the 3 to 6 month category, whereas only about 14% of violent and property crime offences received this sentence length.
- ◆ Offences such as minor assaults, fraud, forgery, mischief and joyriding are most likely to receive a probation term as the most serious sentence.

Figure 4.6

Adult Criminal Cases by Amount of Fine, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ 65% of fines for all Criminal Code offences were under \$300 with the single largest category (28.3%) represented by fines of \$100 or less.
- ◆ More than half of all violent and property offence fines are for less than \$200. In contrast, 99% of Criminal Code traffic offence fines are for more than \$200. This occurs because 90% of Criminal Code traffic offences are impaired driving cases which come with a mandatory minimum fine of \$300 for a first offence.
- ◆ The distribution of fine amounts varies among jurisdictions. For example, 34% of all Criminal Code fines in Quebec are for \$100 or less while only 2.2% of Criminal Code fines in P.E.I. are under this amount. Some of this difference can be explained by the fact that a much higher proportion of convicted cases in P.E.I. are for impaired driving. Because the minimum fine for impaired driving is \$300, a higher proportion of fine sentences in P.E.I. tend to fall into higher fine amount categories.

Figure 4.7

Adult Impaired Driving Offences, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



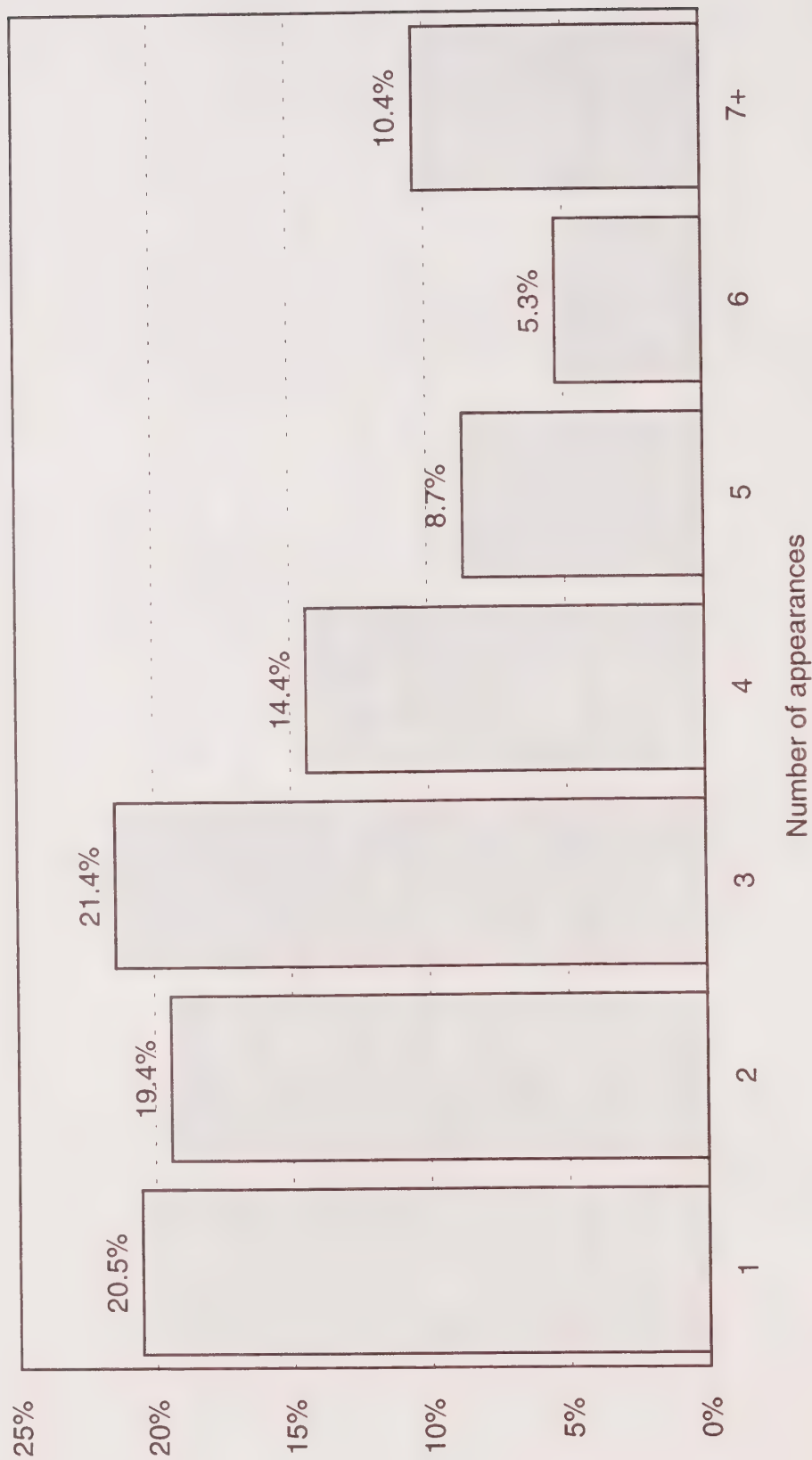
* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ Impaired driving charges were the single largest category of offence heard in provincial court. This offence, as percentage total of Criminal Code charges heard in provincial court, ranges from a low of 15% in Quebec to a high of 32% in P.E.I.
- ◆ It appears that impaired driving sentences make up a very large part of total provincial court case sentences and that the overall conviction rates for impaired driving cases are significantly higher than for other Criminal Code offence cases (eg. 85% for impaired driving cases versus 48% for violent cases and 68% for property cases.)

Figure 4.8

Adult Criminal Cases by Number of Appearances, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



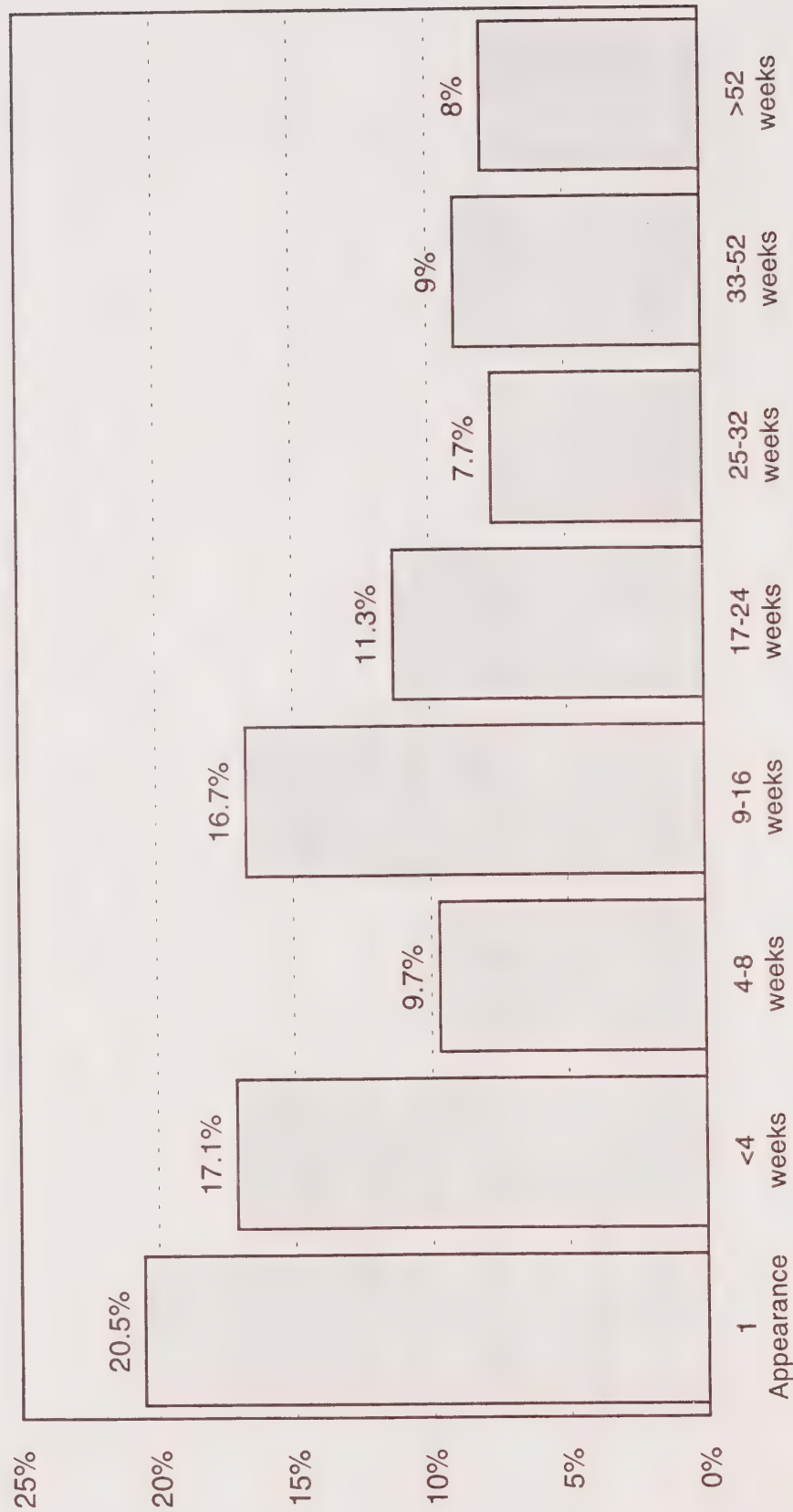
* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ 61% of Criminal Code cases required 3 or fewer appearances to reach a final disposition and only 10% required 7 or more appearances.
- ◆ Violent offences require more appearances to reach a final disposition than do property or Criminal Code traffic offences: 46% of all violent offences needed 4 or more appearances to reach a final disposition compared to 40% of property offences and 32% of Criminal Code traffic offences.
- ◆ The number of appearances to reach a final disposition varied across jurisdictions. For example, 70% of provincial criminal court cases in Prince Edward Island were disposed of with a single appearance compared to 32% of criminal court cases in Saskatchewan.

Figure 4.9

Adult Criminal Cases by Elapsed Time From 1st Appearance to Disposition, Selected Jurisdictions, 1993*



Elapsed time from 1st appearance to disposition

* Includes provincial court data for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. These data represent about 30% of national coverage.

Source: Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Criminal Court Statistics, 1994 (catalogue no.85-214E).

- ◆ Almost one-half of all criminal cases disposed of in provincial court reached a final disposition within 8 weeks, with only 8% of cases taking more than 1 year to reach a final disposition.
- ◆ About 28% of violent cases were disposed of within four weeks. In contrast, 38% of property offences and 40% of Criminal Code traffic offences were disposed of within 4 weeks.
- ◆ Elapsed times can vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. For instance, 84% of cases in provincial criminal court in Prince Edward Island were completed within 8 weeks compared to 43% of cases in Quebec provincial criminal courts.

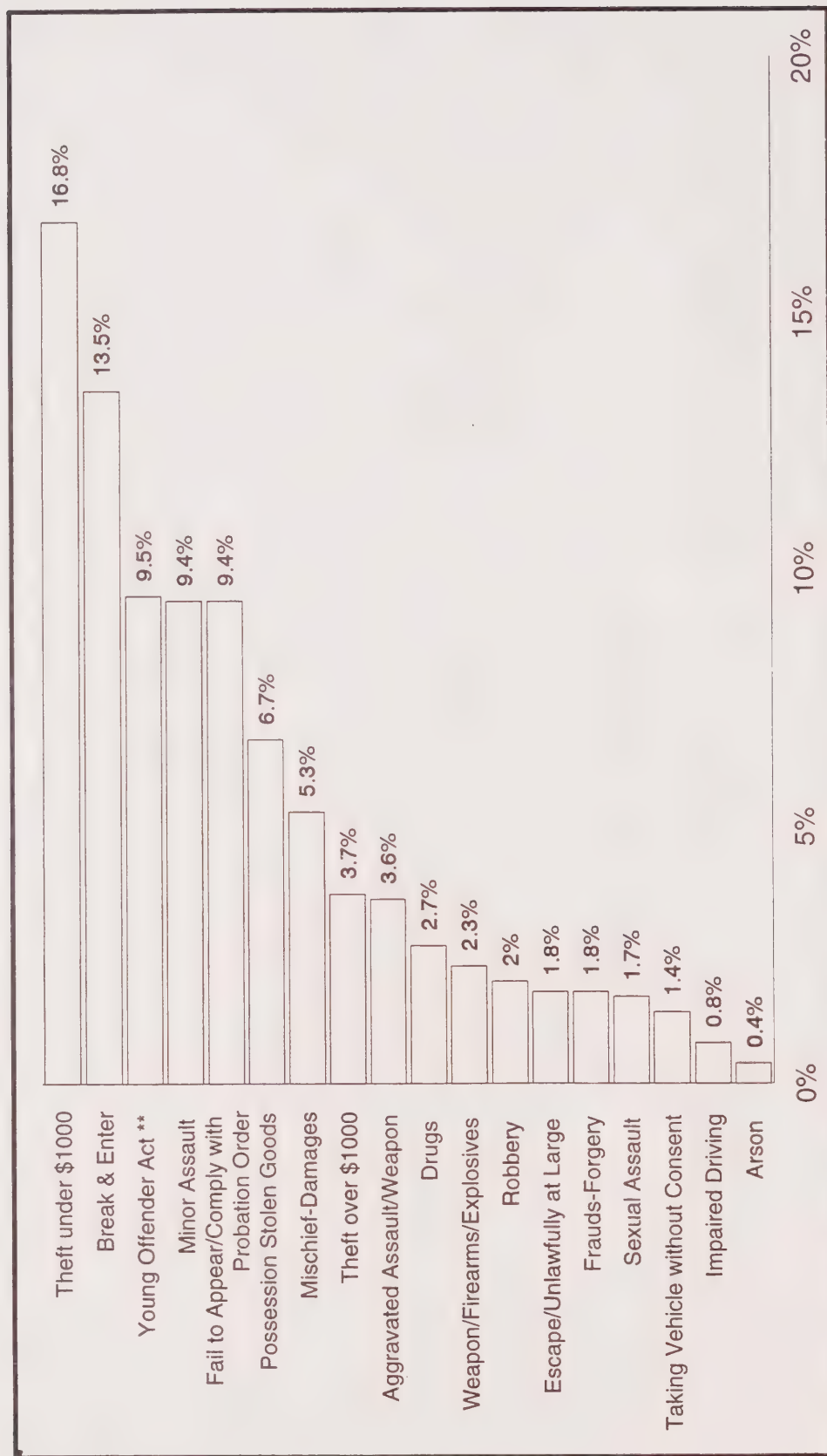


Section 5:

YOUTH COURT ACTIVITY IN CANADA

Figure 5.1

Distribution of Selected Cases Heard in Youth Court by Type of Offence*, Canada, 1993-94



* Type of offence refers to the principal (most serious) charge. The cases displayed have been chosen according to frequency and represent 93% of all youth court cases.

** Offences include failure to comply with a disposition or undertaking, contempt against youth court and assist/interfere/other.

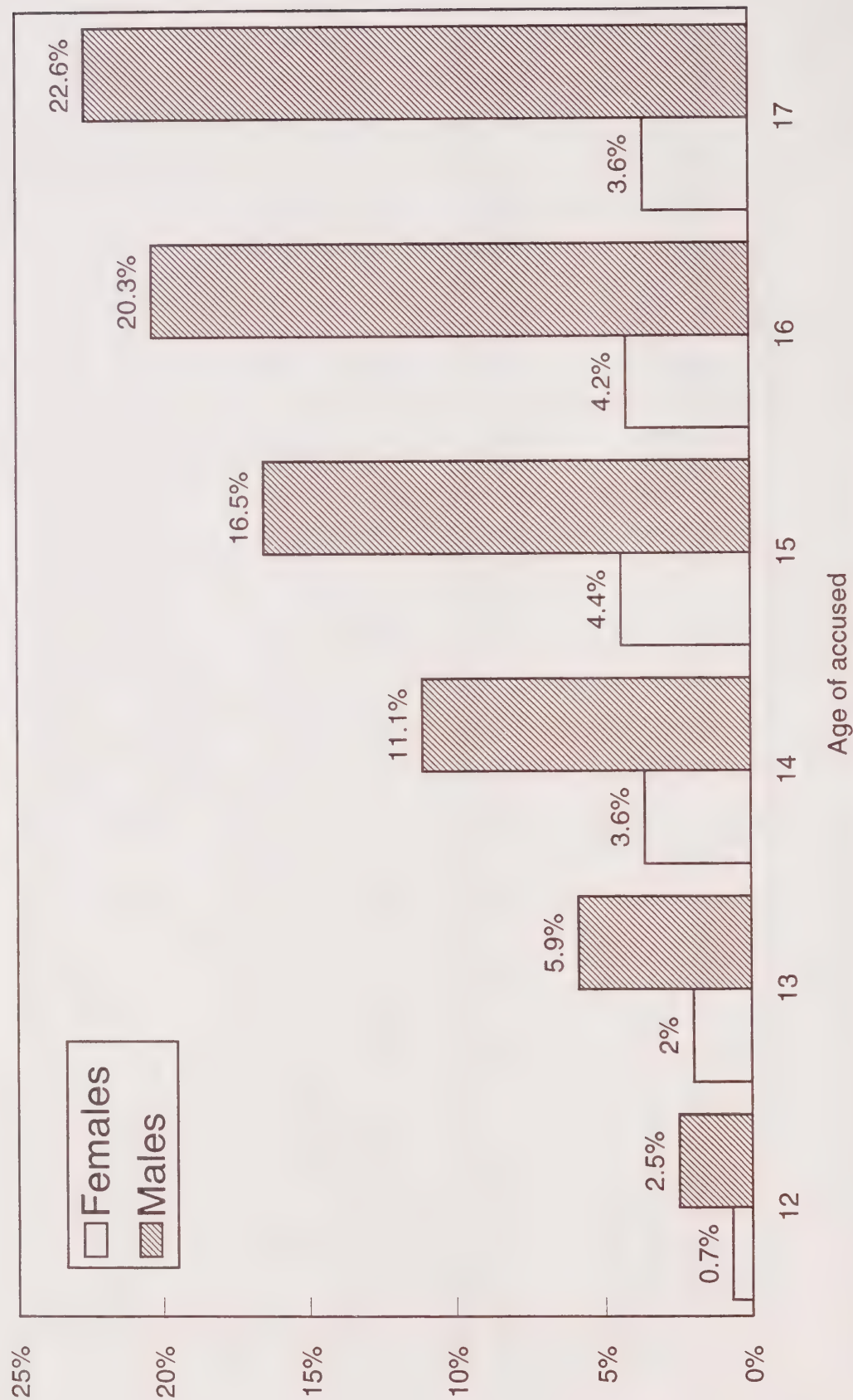
Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ In 1993-94, youth courts heard 115,949 cases involving 212,906 federal offences. Over 50% of the caseload was related to property offences while 20% involved violent offences.
- ◆ Compared to 1992-93, the number of property cases decreased by 5% while all other offence categories either increased or remained the same.
- ◆ Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, the number of cases involving violent offences increased by 8%. Two-thirds of this increase was due to an increase in assault level 1 (minor assault). Over this same period, drug offence cases increased by 34%.
- ◆ Between 1986-87 and 1993-94, the total caseload volume increased by 25%. Over two-thirds of this increase is due to increased enforcement of administrative offences such as failure to appear and failure to comply.

Figure 5.2

Youth Court Cases* by Age and Sex of Accused, Canada, 1993-94

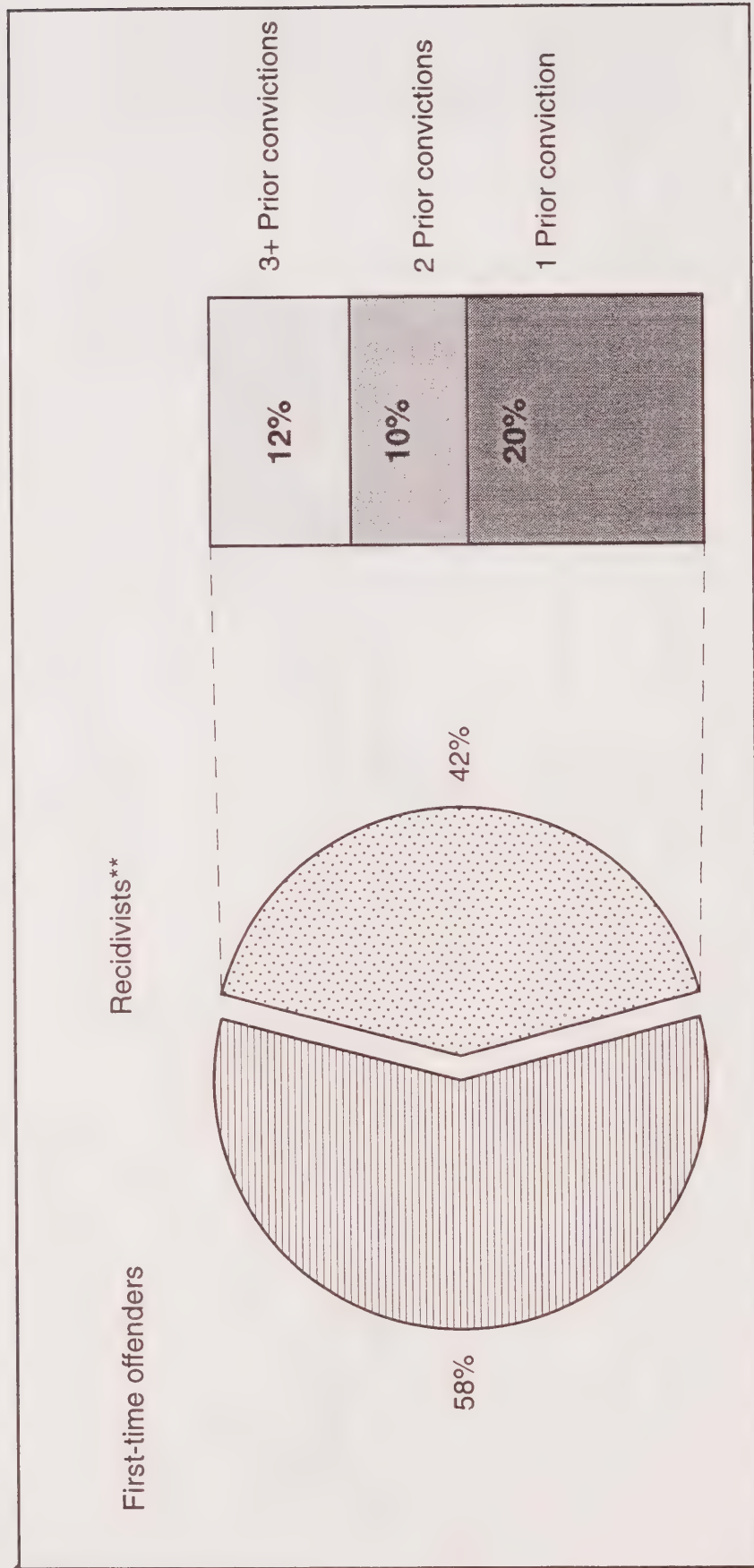


* There were 3,333 cases (2.9%) in which the age of the youth was under 12, over 17, or unknown.
Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ In 1993-94, approximately 80% of youths appearing in court were males. About 50% of the court caseload involved youths aged 16 to 17 years; 36% involved 14 and 15 year olds; and 11% involved 12 and 13 year olds.
- ◆ Compared to 1992-93, there was a 6% increase in youth court caseload for the 12 to 13 year old age group.

Figure 5.3

Youth Court Cases by Offender Type and Number of Prior Convictions, 1993-94*



* Data exclude Ontario and Nova Scotia.

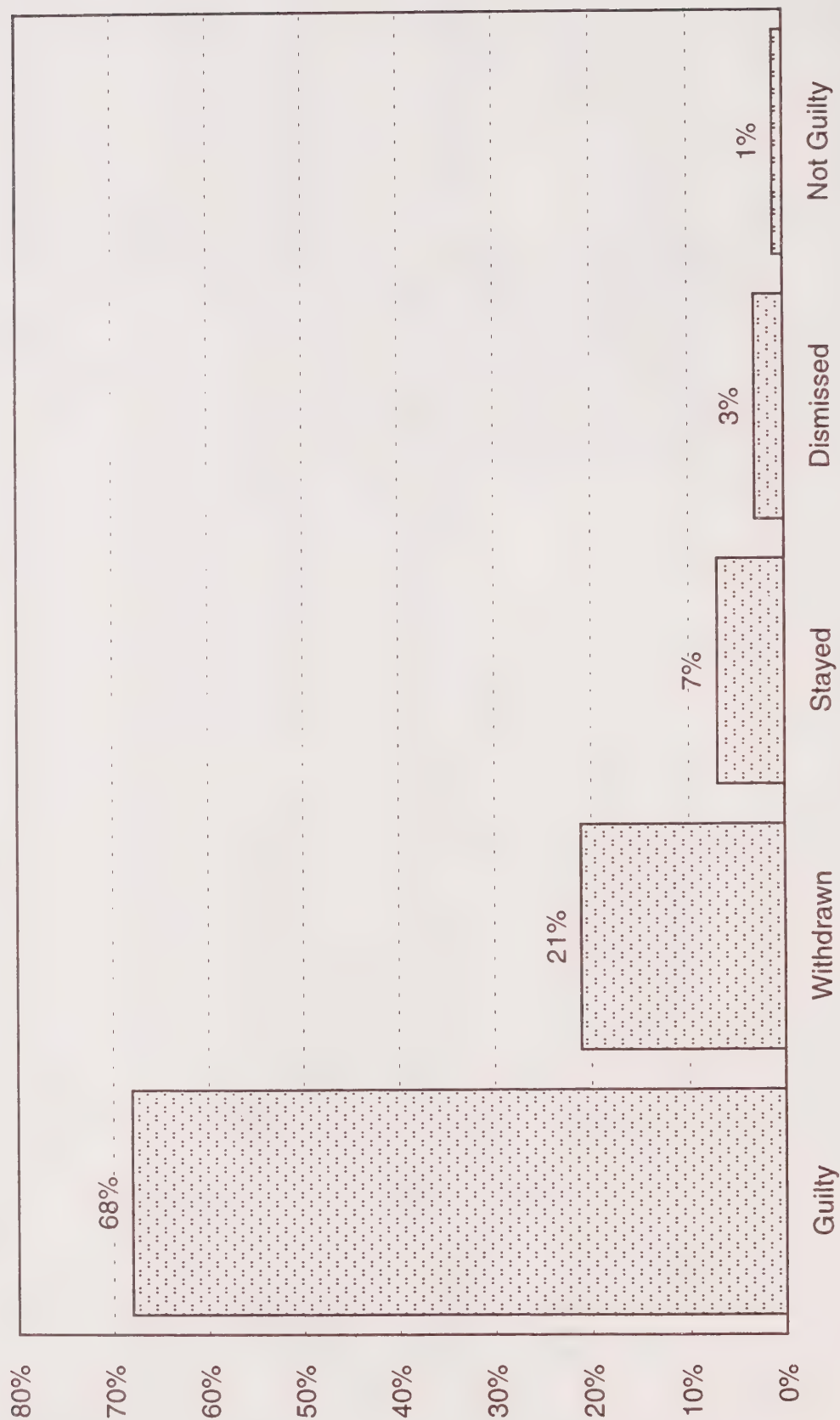
** Recidivist is defined as a case heard in 1993-94 involving a young person for whom one or more earlier charges resulted in a finding of guilt from a youth court in the same province or territory.

Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue 85-002) Vol.15, No.16, "Youth Recidivism."

- ◆ In 1993-94, 42% of cases dealt with in youth court involved recidivists: 20% had one prior conviction, 10% had 2 prior convictions and 12% had 3 or more prior convictions.
- ◆ Cases involving males had a higher proportion of prior convictions: 44% as compared to 33% of cases for females.
- ◆ Recidivists do not appear to be brought to court for more serious offences than first offenders. For example, about 19% of the recidivist cases received a conviction for a violent offence as the most serious offence, compared to 25% of first offenders.
- ◆ Cases involving recidivists were 4 times more likely to result in custodial dispositions than cases for first-time offenders.

Figure 5.4

Distribution of Cases Heard in Youth Courts by Most Serious Disposition, Canada, 1993-94

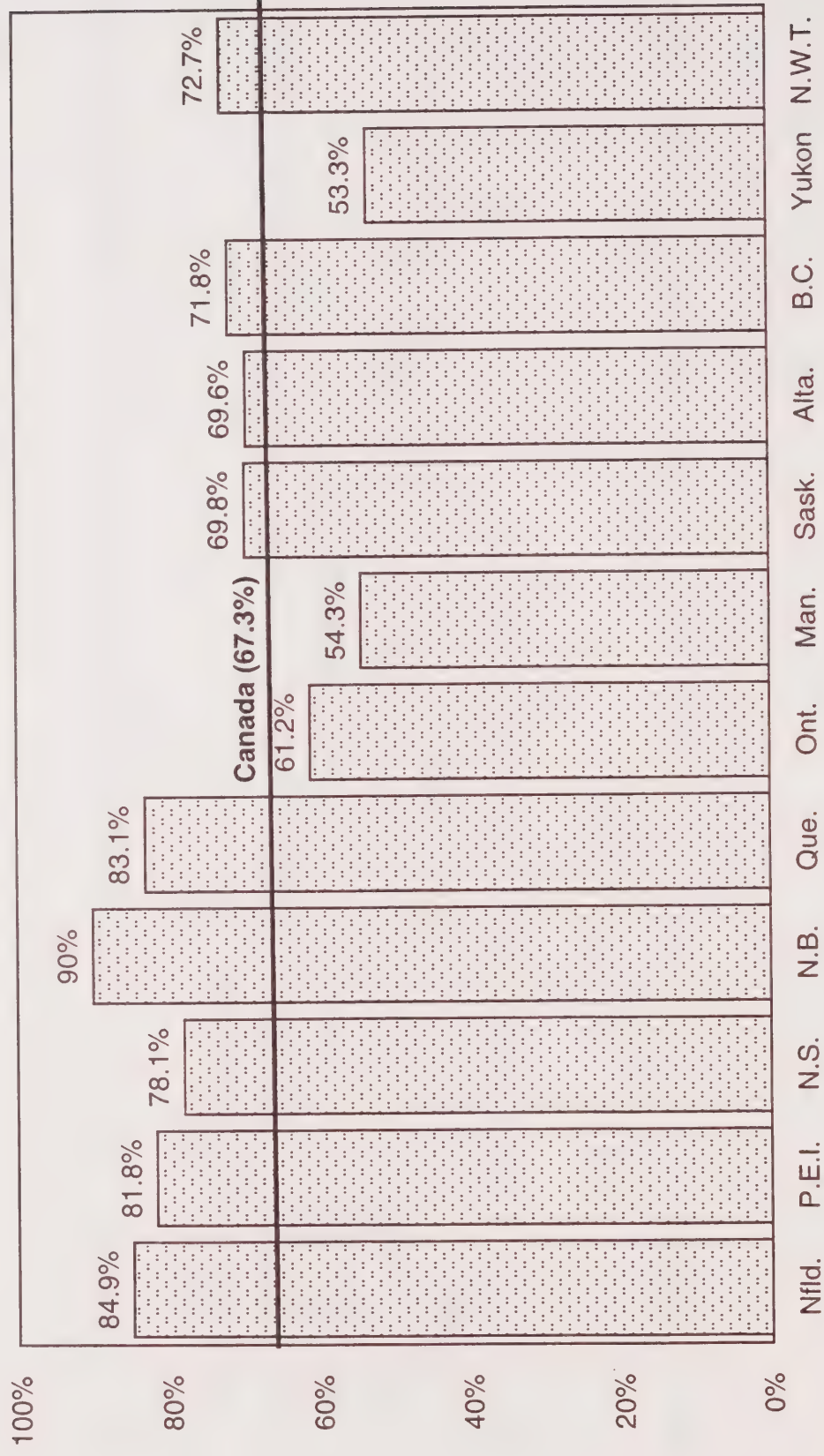


Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ Over two-thirds of cases heard in youth courts resulted in a finding of guilt for at least one charge.
- ◆ Cases involving escape/unlawfully at large, impaired driving and breaking and entering resulted most often in a finding of guilt at 90%, 84% and 76% respectively. Cases less likely to result in a finding of guilt involved failure to appear/comply (55%), aggravated/weapon assault (60%), sexual assault (60%), and theft under \$1,000 (62%).
- ◆ Less than 1% of all cases were transferred to adult court (94) or to another province/territory (204).
- ◆ 47% of all cases (44) transferred to adult court involved violent offences and 32% (30) involved property offences.

Figure 5.5

Youth Court Cases with Guilty Findings, Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 1993-94



Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ In 1993-94, the proportion of cases resulting in a guilty finding ranged from 53% in the Yukon, 54% in Manitoba, and 61% in Ontario to 85% in Newfoundland and 90% in New Brunswick.
- ◆ One reason for this variation across jurisdictions is the proportion of cases that are stayed or withdrawn. For instance, Manitoba recorded the highest proportion of cases stayed (43%) and Ontario reported 35% of cases withdrawn. The high proportions in these two provinces were partially due to charges being stayed or withdrawn pending the completion of alternative measures programs.
- ◆ Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, the proportion of cases resulting in a finding of guilt remained relatively stable across all jurisdictions.

Figure 5.6

Distribution of Cases Heard in Youth Courts that Resulted in a Finding of Guilt by Most Serious Disposition, Canada, 1993-94

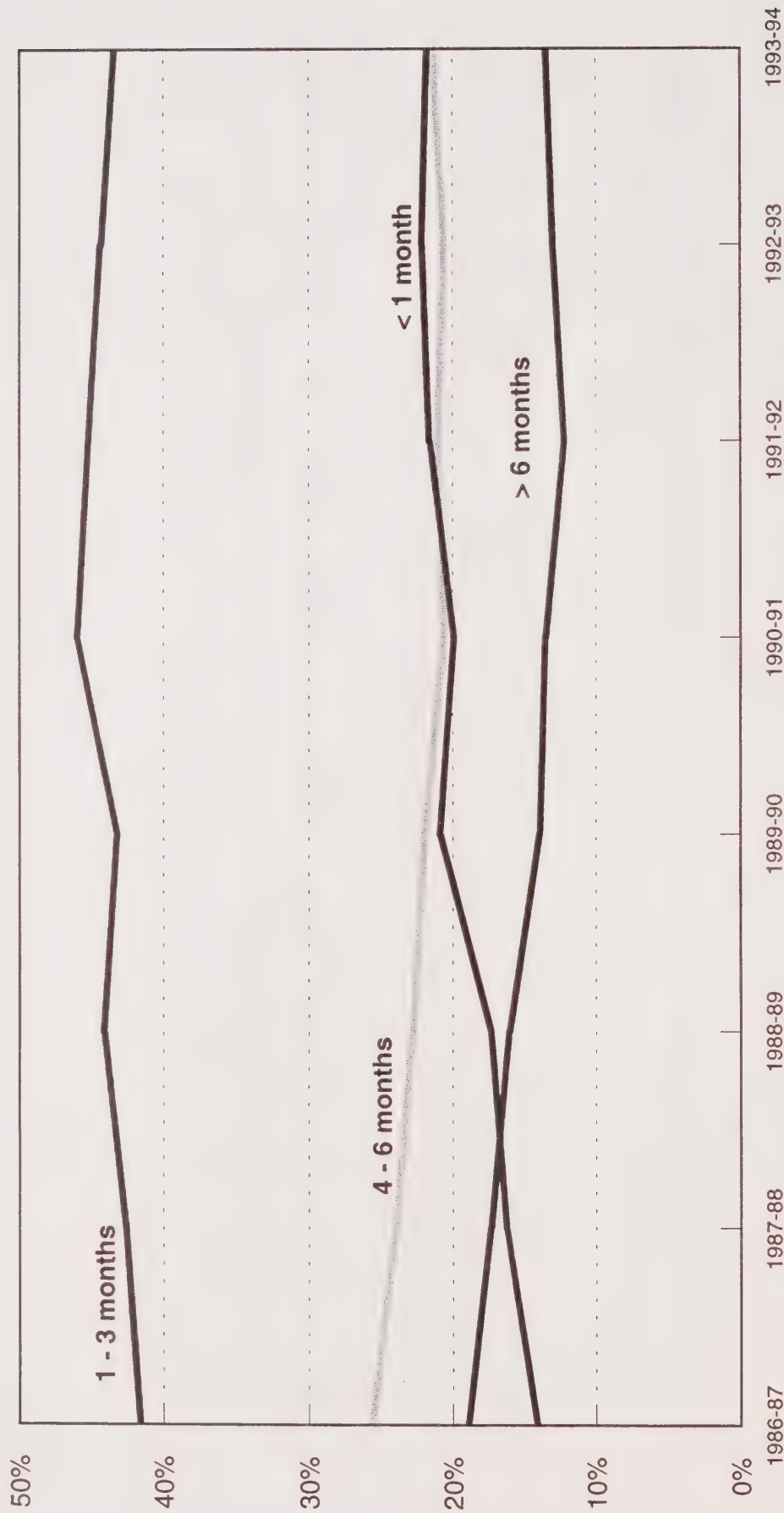


Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ In 1993-94, probation was the most significant disposition in 39% of cases with a finding of guilt.
- ◆ Often, Community Service Orders are used in conjunction with other dispositions: 27% of all cases resulting in a conviction included a Community Service Order.
- ◆ A case may result in more than one disposition. In 1993-94, 68% of all cases with guilty findings involved one disposition, 25% resulted in two dispositions, and 5% involved three or more dispositions.

Figure 5.7

Youth Court Cases* with Custodial Dispositions by Sentence Length, Canada, 1986-87 to 1993-94



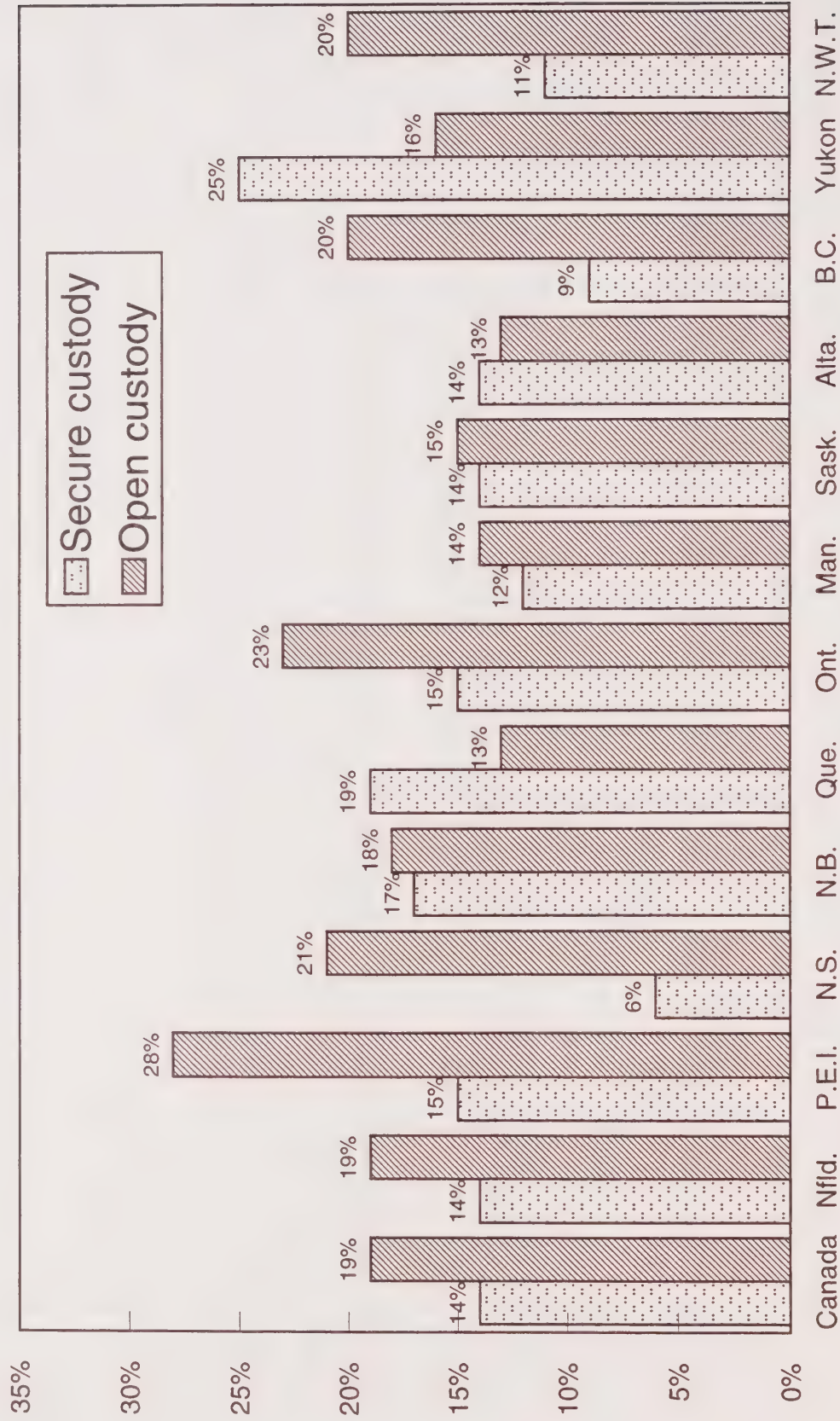
* Data exclude Ontario and the Northwest Territories for which data for previous years are not available. Custodial dispositions refer to secure and open custody.

Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ Excluding Ontario and the Northwest Territories, the proportion of cases resulting in a custody disposition of 3 months or less increased from 55% in 1986-87 to 65% in 1993-94. The proportion of cases resulting in a custody disposition of more than 6 months decreased from 19% in 1986-87 to 13% in 1993-94.
- ◆ For 1993-94, of the 25,602 cases resulting in custodial dispositions (includes data from Ontario and Northwest Territories), 24% were sentenced to less than 1 month, 48% from 1 to 3 months, 18% from 4 to 6 months, and 10% for more than 6 months.

Figure 5.8

Youth Court Cases with a Finding of Guilt, by Custodial Disposition, Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 1993-94



Source: Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 (catalogue 85-522).

- ◆ In 1993-94, Prince Edward Island (43%), the Yukon (41%) and Ontario (38%) ordered the highest proportion of custodial dispositions; Manitoba (26%), Nova Scotia (27%) and Alberta (27%) ordered the lowest.
- ◆ Overall, youth courts across Canada ordered a higher proportion of open (19%) custody dispositions than secure custody (14%).
- ◆ A higher proportion of secure than open custody was ordered in three jurisdictions: Quebec, Alberta and the Yukon.
- ◆ Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, the proportion of cases ordered to open and secure custody remained relatively stable across all jurisdictions.

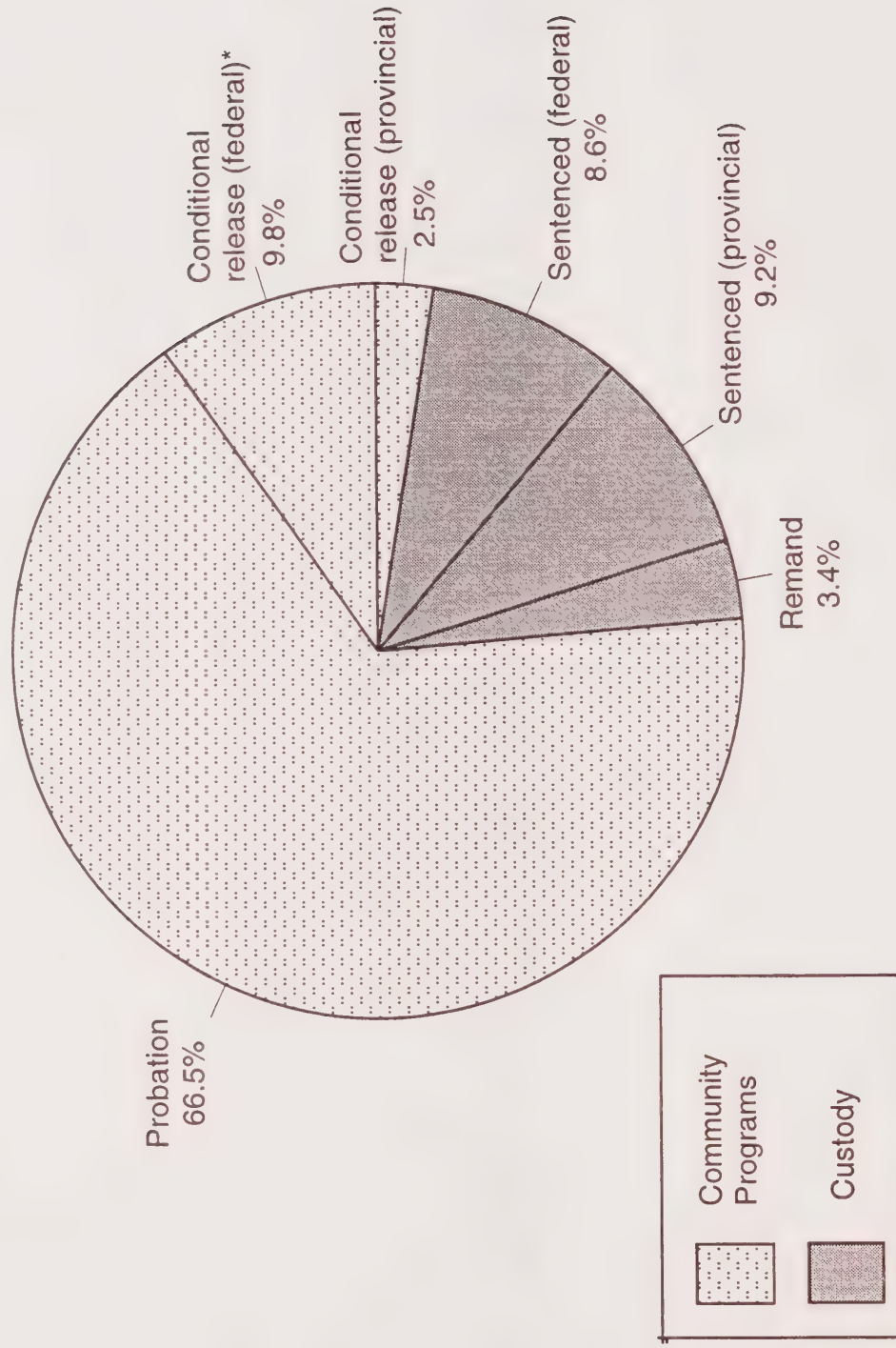


Section 6:

CORRECTIONAL POPULATION IN CANADA

Figure 6.1

Adult Correctional Populations in Canada, 1993-94

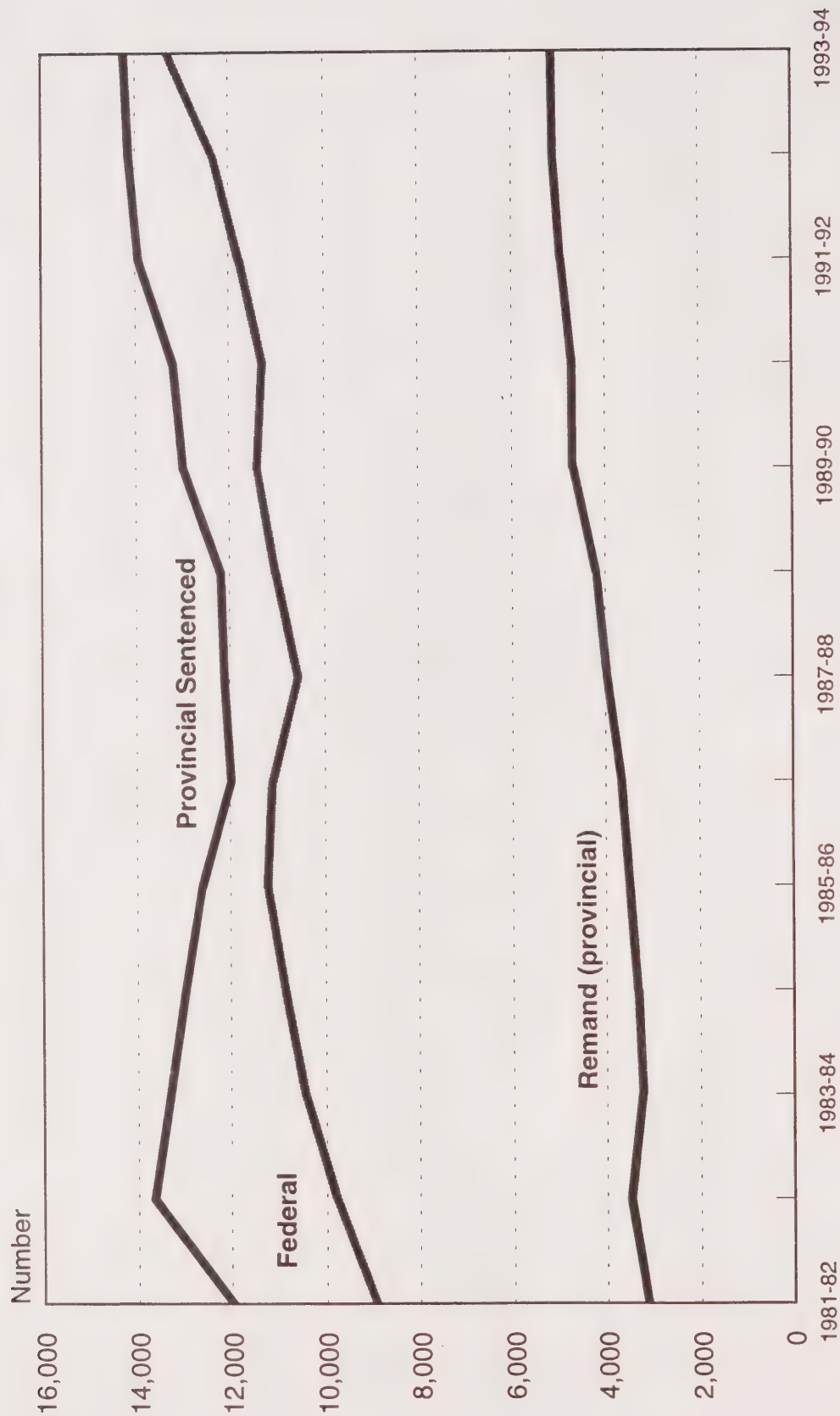


* Excludes federal offenders on temporary absences.
Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ On any given day during 1993-94, an average of 154,106 adult offenders were under the direct care or supervision of correctional agencies in Canada.
- ◆ During this period, almost one-quarter of the correctional population was in custody, while the remaining three-quarters were on either conditional release or probation.
- ◆ Since 1989-90, the total correctional caseload has increased steadily from 117,571 to 154,106 in 1993-94 (up 31%).

Figure 6.2

Average Adult Custodial Counts by Type, 1981-82 to 1993-94

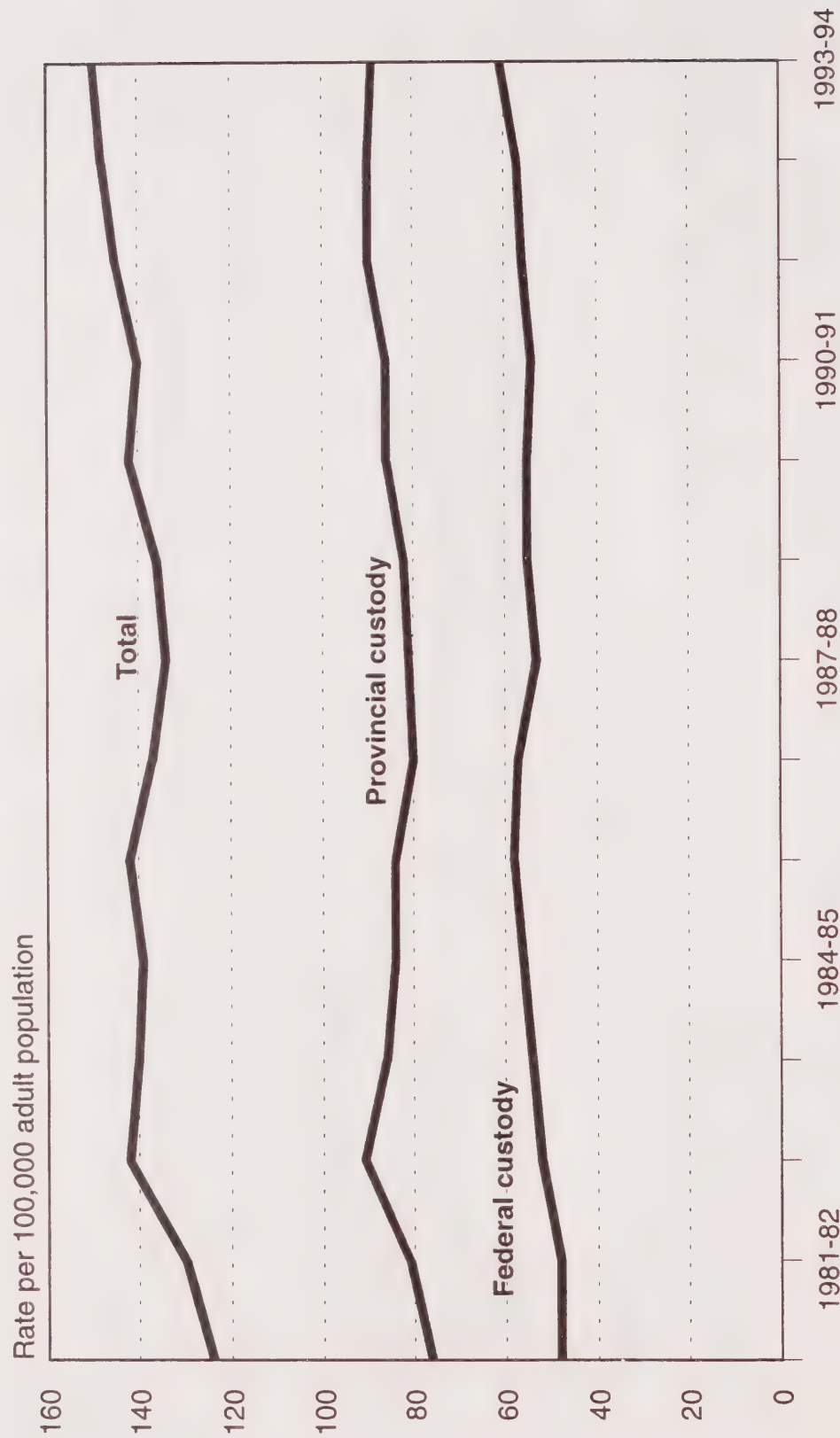


Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, there was an average of 14,251 sentenced offenders in provincial custody, a 10% increase since 1989-90 and a 0.8% increase since 1992-93.
- ◆ Federal offender counts have increased steadily from 11,415 in 1989-90 to 13,322 in 1993-94, representing a 17% increase. Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, the average count increased by 8% (or 980 offenders).
- ◆ Average remand counts increased slightly by 0.4% between 1992-93 and 1993-94, reaching 5,130. Since 1989-90, remand counts have shown an increase of 10%.

Figure 6.3

Incarceration Rate* per 100,000 Adult Population, 1980-81 to 1993-94



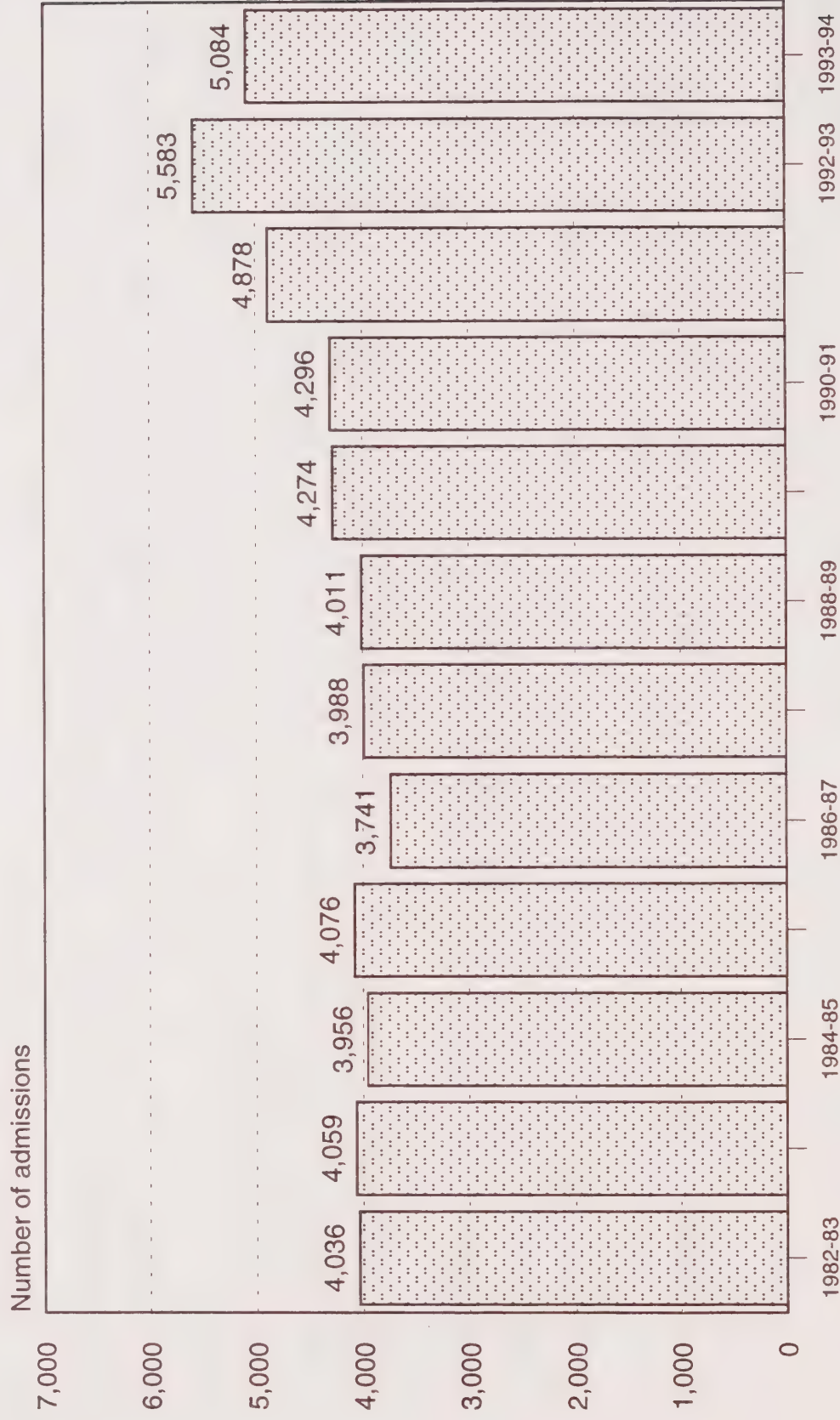
* Number of adults in custody per 100,000 adult population.

Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ Between 1981-82 and 1993-94, there has been an average annual increase of 1.5% in Canada's total incarceration rate (federal and provincial combined). The largest year-to-year increase occurred between 1981-82 and 1982-83 when the rate rose from 130 to 142 adults in custody per 100,000 adults (+9.2%).
- ◆ While 1980-81 showed the lowest incarceration rate (124 per 100,000 population), 1993-94 showed the highest (150 per 100,000 population).
- ◆ Between 1990-91 and 1993-94, the incarceration rate has steadily increased from 140 to 150 per 100,000 population.

Figure 6.4

Sentenced Admissions to Federal Custody, Canada, 1982-83 to 1993-94

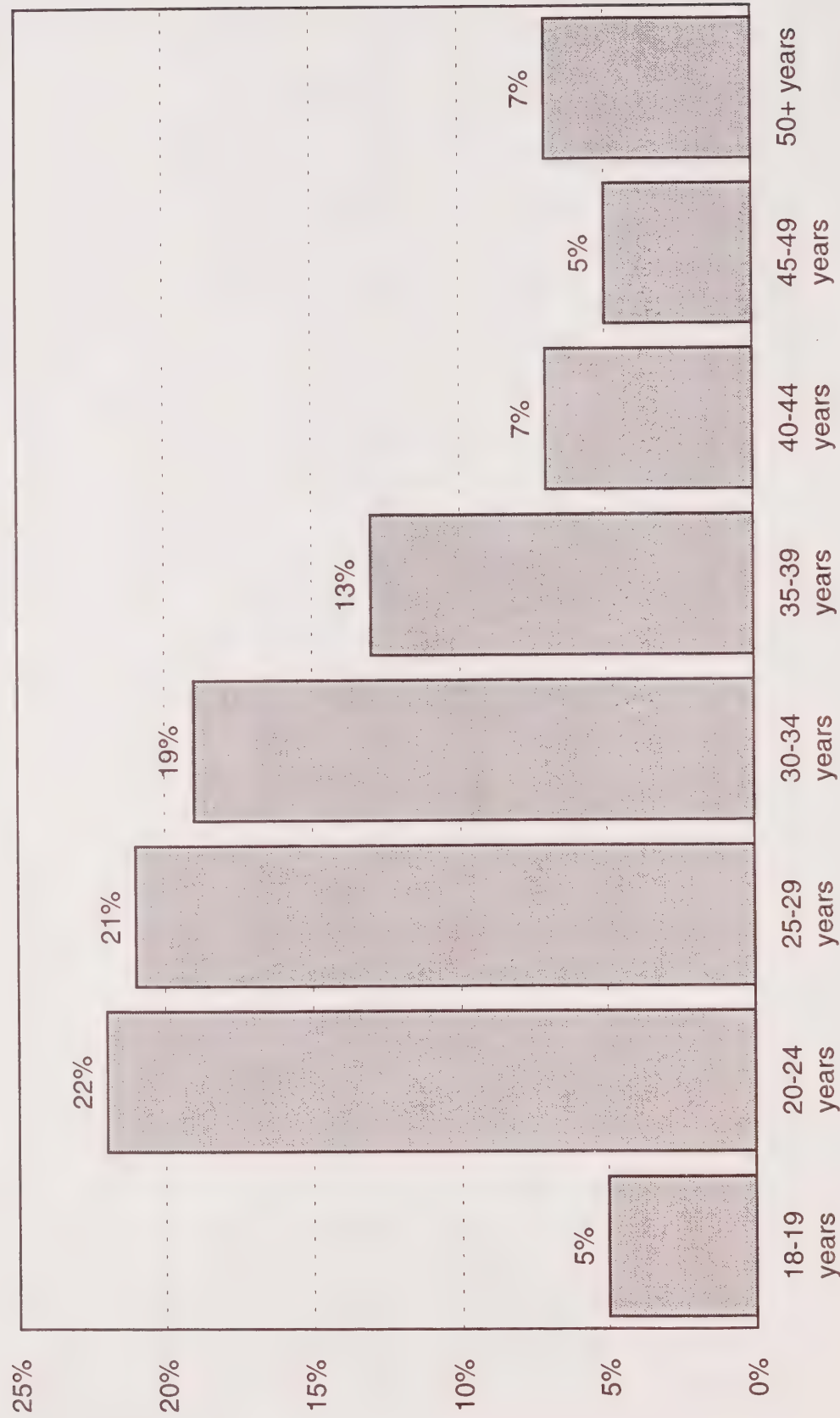


Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, there were 5,084 sentenced admissions to federal custody, a decrease of 9% (499) persons below the peak number in 1992-93. Between 1982-83 and 1990-91, the number of sentenced admissions remained stable ranging from 3,741 to 4,296.
- ◆ Between 1983-84 and 1993-94, the average sentence length for offenders serving a sentence in federal custody (excluding life sentences) has remained stable ranging from 42.9 months to 46.9 months. In 1993-94, the average sentence length was 46.3 months, or almost 4 years.

Figure 6.5

Age of Offenders Admitted to Federal Custody, Canada, 1993-94

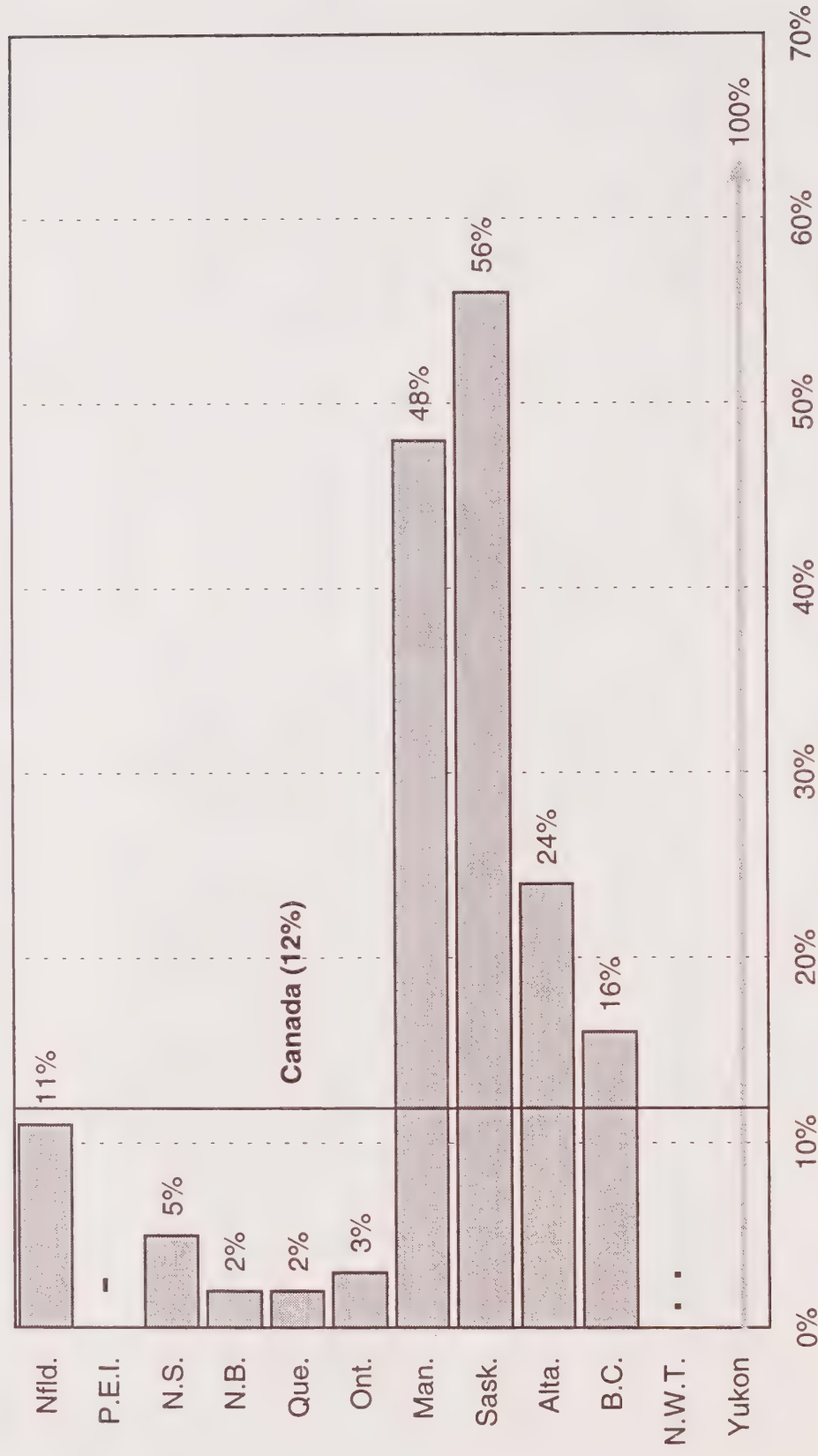


Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, persons in their twenties made up the largest proportion (43%) of those admitted to federal custody.
- ◆ The average age for a federal inmate upon admission is 31 years.
- ◆ It appears that the population being sentenced to federal custody has been aging. In 1993-94, 67% of persons sentenced to federal custody were aged 18 to 34 years, compared to 75% in 1986-87. The proportion of those aged 35 and over has thus grown from 23% in 1986-87 to 33% in 1993-94.

Figure 6.6

Federal Sentenced Admissions who are Aboriginal by Province/Territory of Sentence, 1993-94



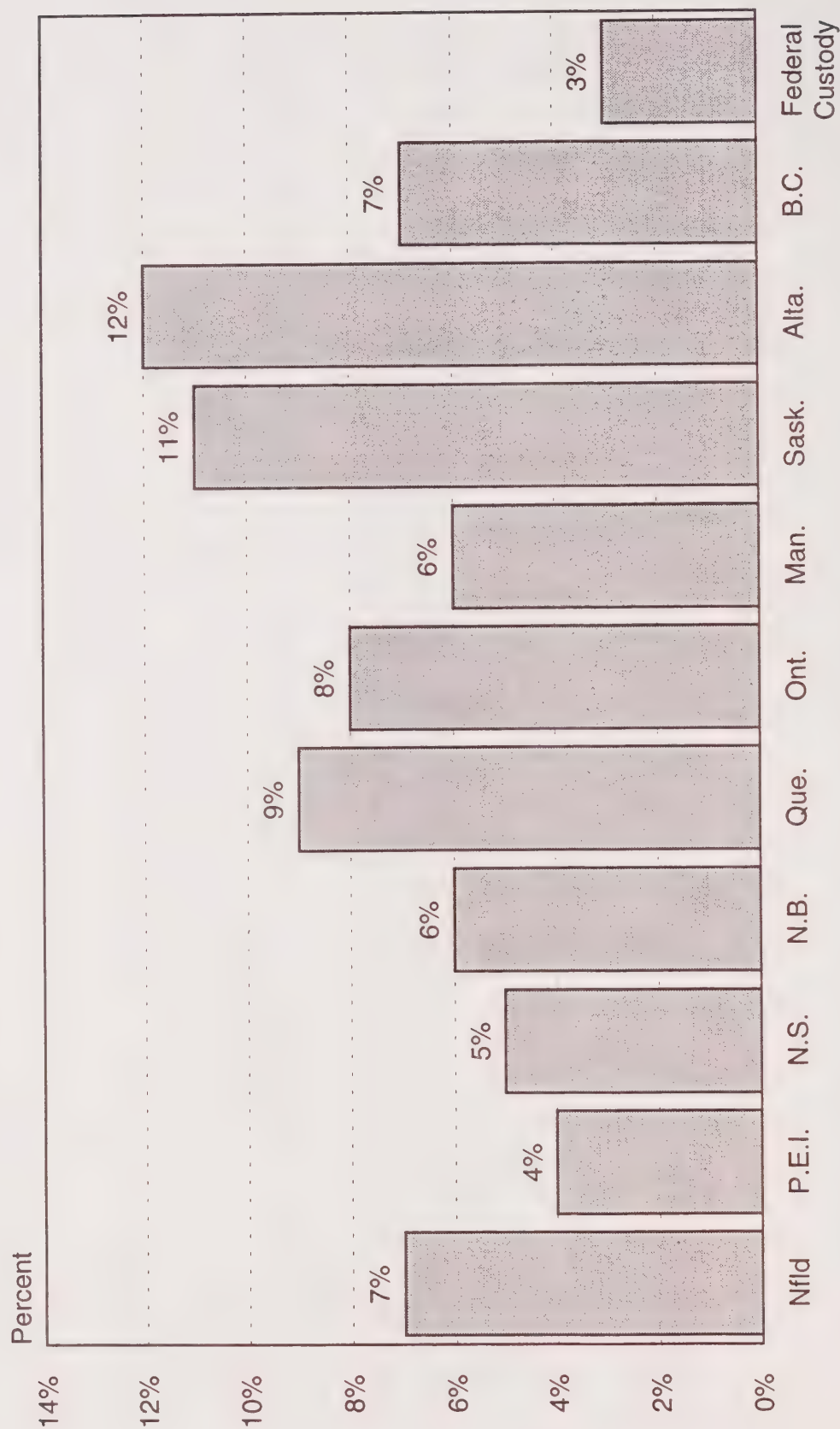
- Nil or zero

.. Data not available

Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, 12% of federal warrant of committal admissions in Canada were Aboriginal peoples. This proportion has remained relatively stable between 1989-90 and 1993-94, ranging from 11% to 13%. Aboriginal peoples, however, make up less than 5% of Canada's population and have long been over-represented in the corrections population.
- ◆ Of the ten provinces, proportions have historically been highest in Saskatchewan, followed by Manitoba and Alberta.

Figure 6.7
Females Incarcerated in Provincial and
Federal Facilities, 1993-94



Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada, 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, females accounted for 9% of all provincial sentenced admissions to custody and 3% of all federal sentenced admissions. Two jurisdictions, Saskatchewan (11%) and Alberta (12%) reported admissions of females above the Canadian average.
- ◆ Overall, the proportion of federal and provincial female incarcerations has remained relatively unchanged in recent years.

Figure 6.8

Incarceration Rate (provincial)* per 100,000 Adult Population by Province, 1993-94

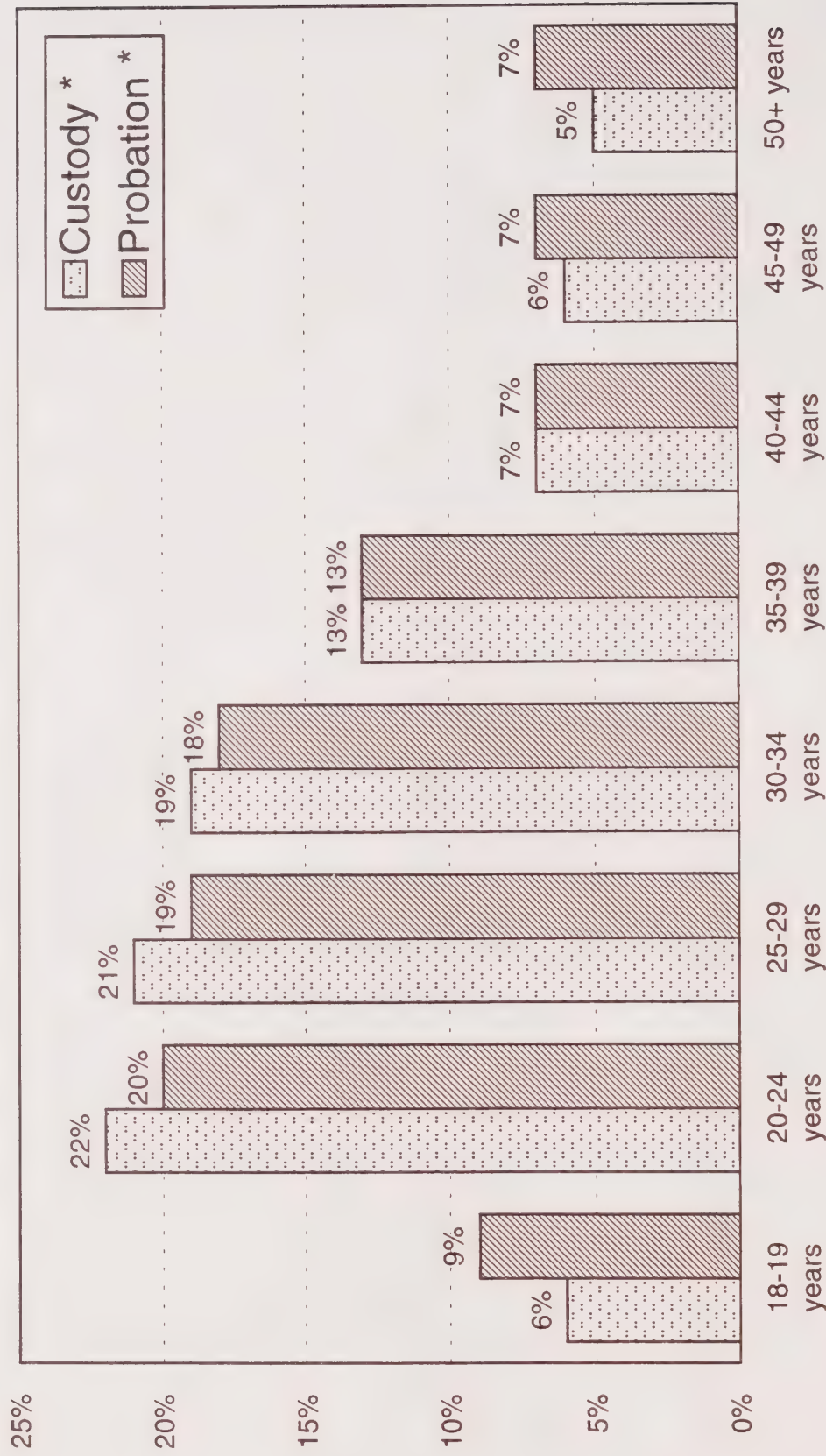


* Number of adults in provincial custody per 100,000 adult population.
Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ On an average day in 1993-94, there were 19,481 adult offenders in provincial custody, or ¹⁷⁶90 adults per 100,000 adult population.
- ◆ In 1993-94, Nova Scotia showed the lowest incarceration rate, followed by Quebec. Saskatchewan showed the highest incarceration rate, followed by Alberta and Manitoba.

Figure 6.9

Age of Sentenced Provincial Offenders on Admission, Canada, 1993-94



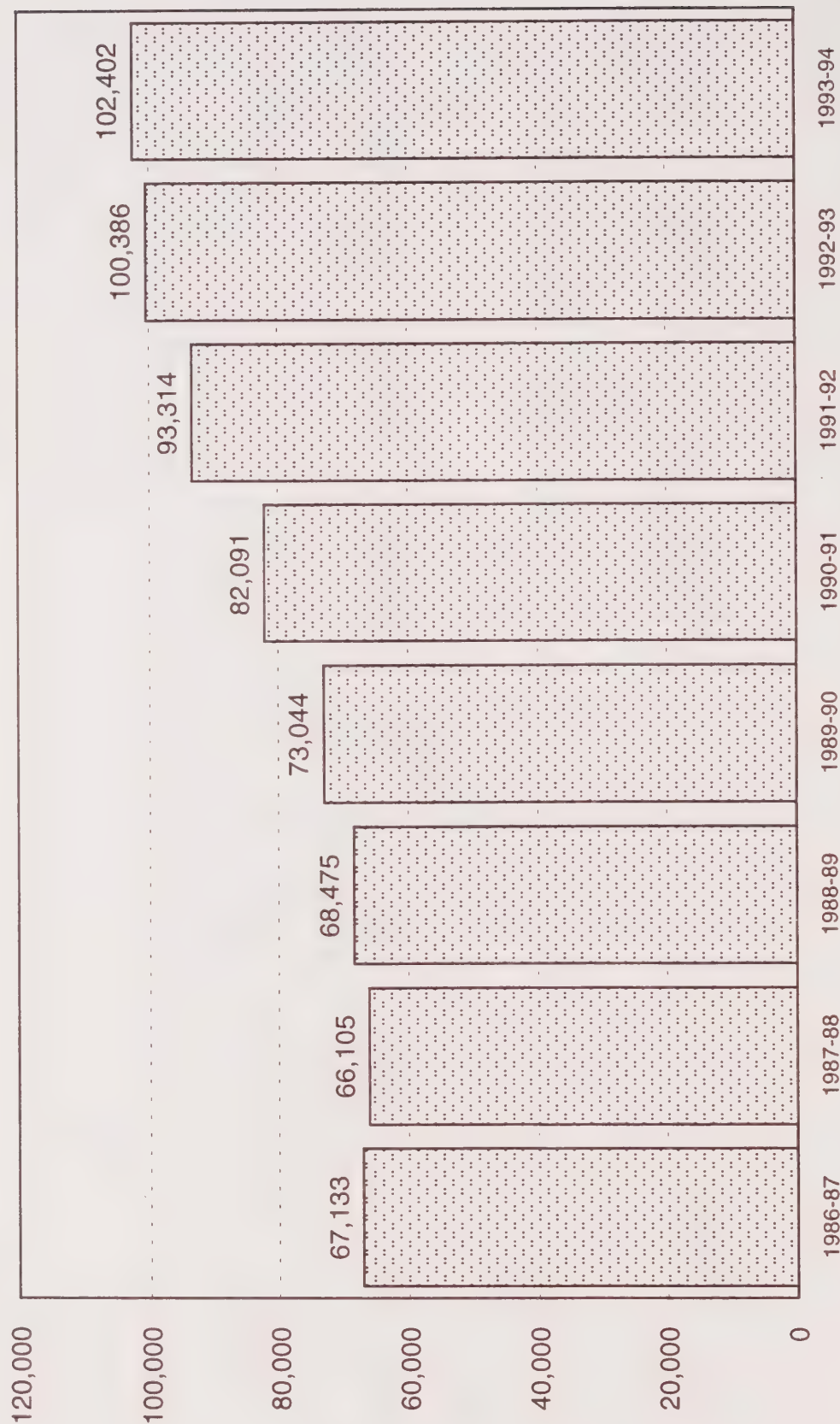
* Percentages may not add to 100% because of number rounding.

Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada. For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, persons in their twenties made up the largest proportion (43%) of those admitted to provincial custody.
- ◆ The average age of sentenced inmates admitted to provincial custody is 29 years.
- ◆ The age of persons sentenced to provincial custody is increasing. In 1993-94, 69% of those sentenced to provincial custody were aged 18 to 34 years, compared to 76% in 1986-87. The proportion of those aged 35 years and older has therefore grown from one-quarter in 1986-87 to over one-third in 1993-94.

Figure 6.10

Average Probation Counts, Canada, 1986-87 to 1993-94

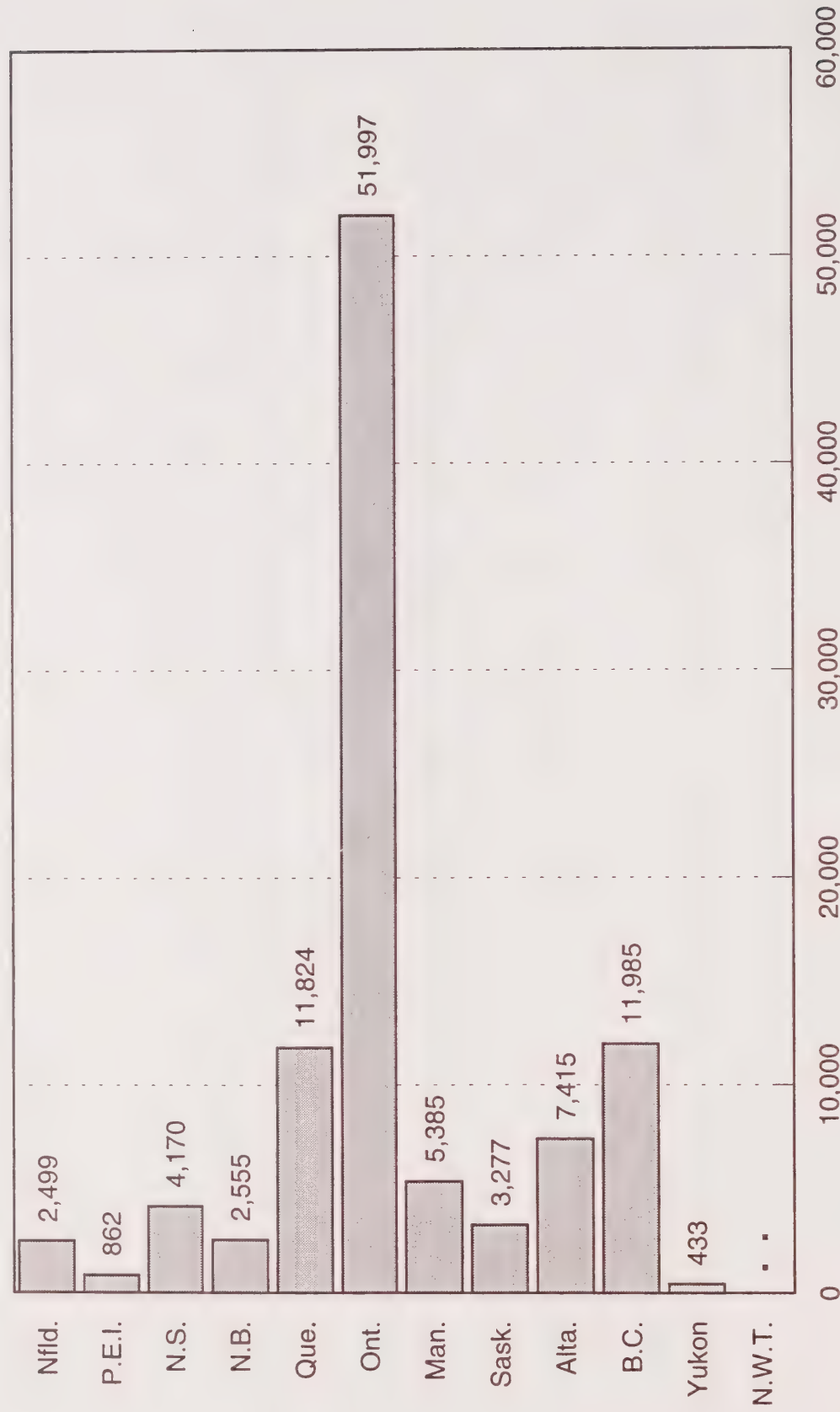


Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ Since 1988-89, average probation counts have increased steadily. The probation count in 1993-94 increased 53% over that of 1988-89. The largest year-to-year increase appeared between 1990-91 and 1991-92 where the average counts increased 14%.
- ◆ Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, probation counts increased by 2%, the smallest year-to-year increase since 1988-89.
- ◆ In 1993-94, all jurisdictions except Nova Scotia, Quebec and the Yukon reported increases in probation caseloads.

Figure 6.11

Average Probation Counts, Provinces/Territories, 1993-94



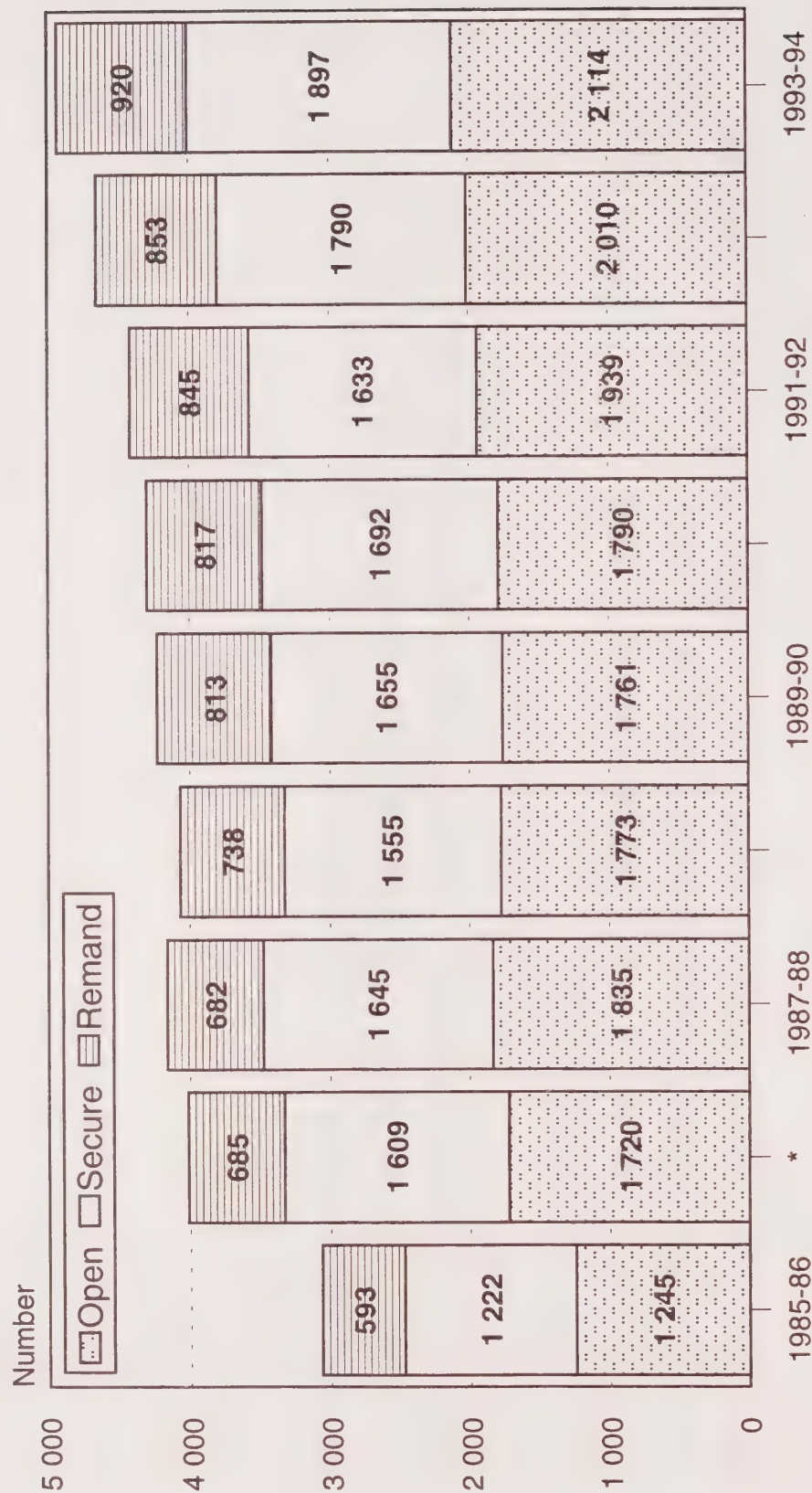
.. Data not available.

Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1994-95 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, the Yukon showed the lowest average provincial probation counts, followed by Prince Edward Island. The highest provincial probation count appeared in Ontario, followed by British Columbia and Quebec.
- ◆ Between 1992-93 and 1993-94, all jurisdictions with the exception of Nova Scotia (-9%), Quebec (-2%) and the Yukon (-38%) reported increases in probation caseloads.

Figure 6.12

Average Count of Young Offenders by Custody Status, 1985-86 to 1993-94



* Northwest Territories began providing data in 1987. Remand/temporary detention data were not available from April 1987 to December 1988, and from January 1991 to March 1991. Open custody data was not available from October 1990 to March 1991.
Source: Corrections Key Indicator Report for Adults and Young Offenders, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 16, No. 5, "Youth Custody and Probation in Canada, 1994-95."

- ◆ On an average day in 1993-94, there were 4,931 young offenders in custodial facilities across Canada.
- ◆ 43% of young offenders were being held in open custody. A facility is considered 'open' when there is minimal use of security devices or perimeter security.
- ◆ 38% of young offenders were being held in secure custody. A facility is considered 'secure' when youths are detained by security devices.
- ◆ Excluding the Northwest Territories, counts show a 21% increase between 1986-87 and 1993-94.

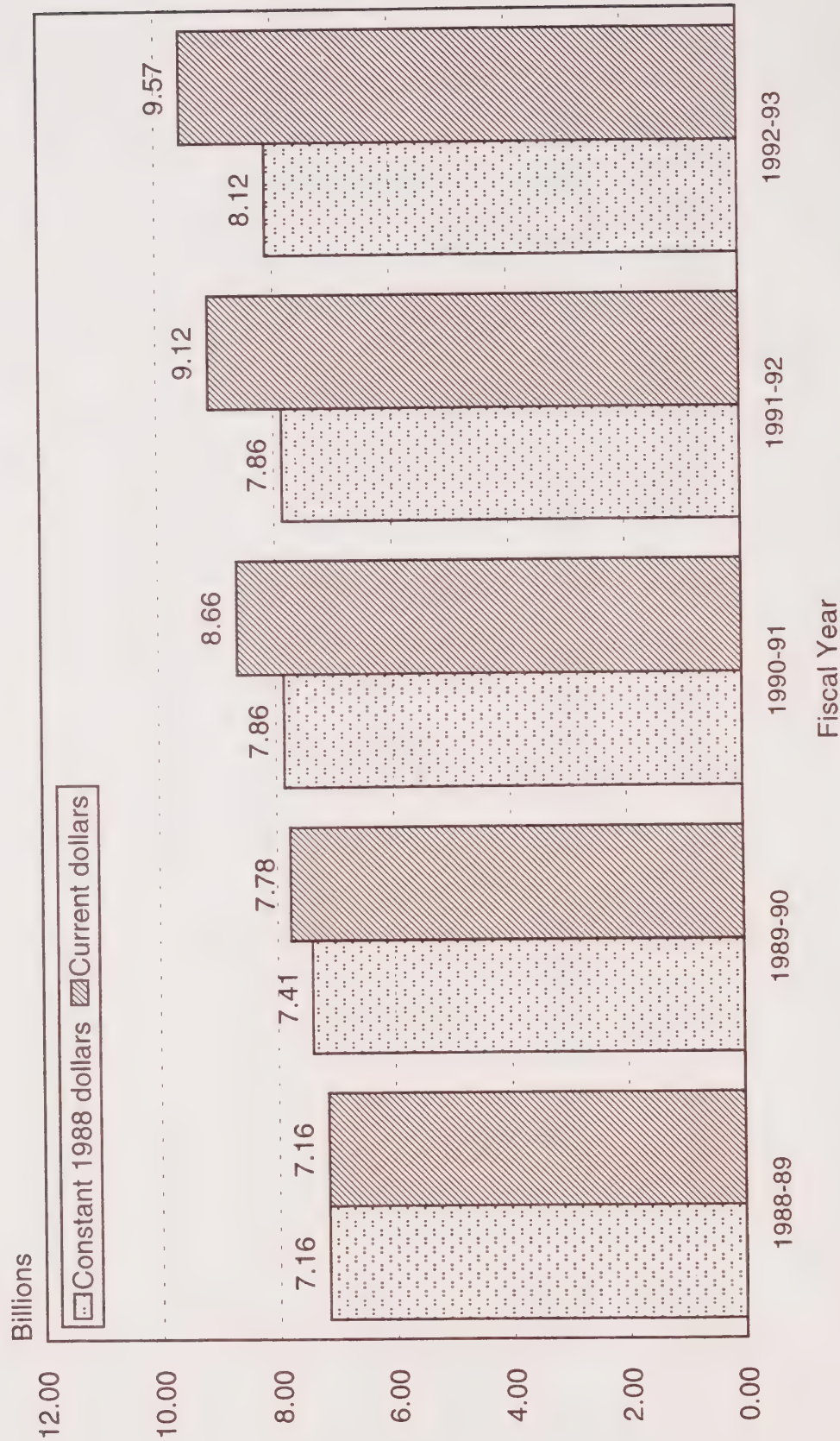


Section 7:

COSTS OF THE CANADIAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Figure 7.1

Total Justice Spending* 1988-89 to 1992-93, Constant 1988** and Current Dollars



* Includes the following sectors: police, courts (excluding prosecution), legal aid and corrections.

** Constant dollars are dollar amounts calculated on a one-year base which adjusts for inflation, making the yearly amounts directly comparable.

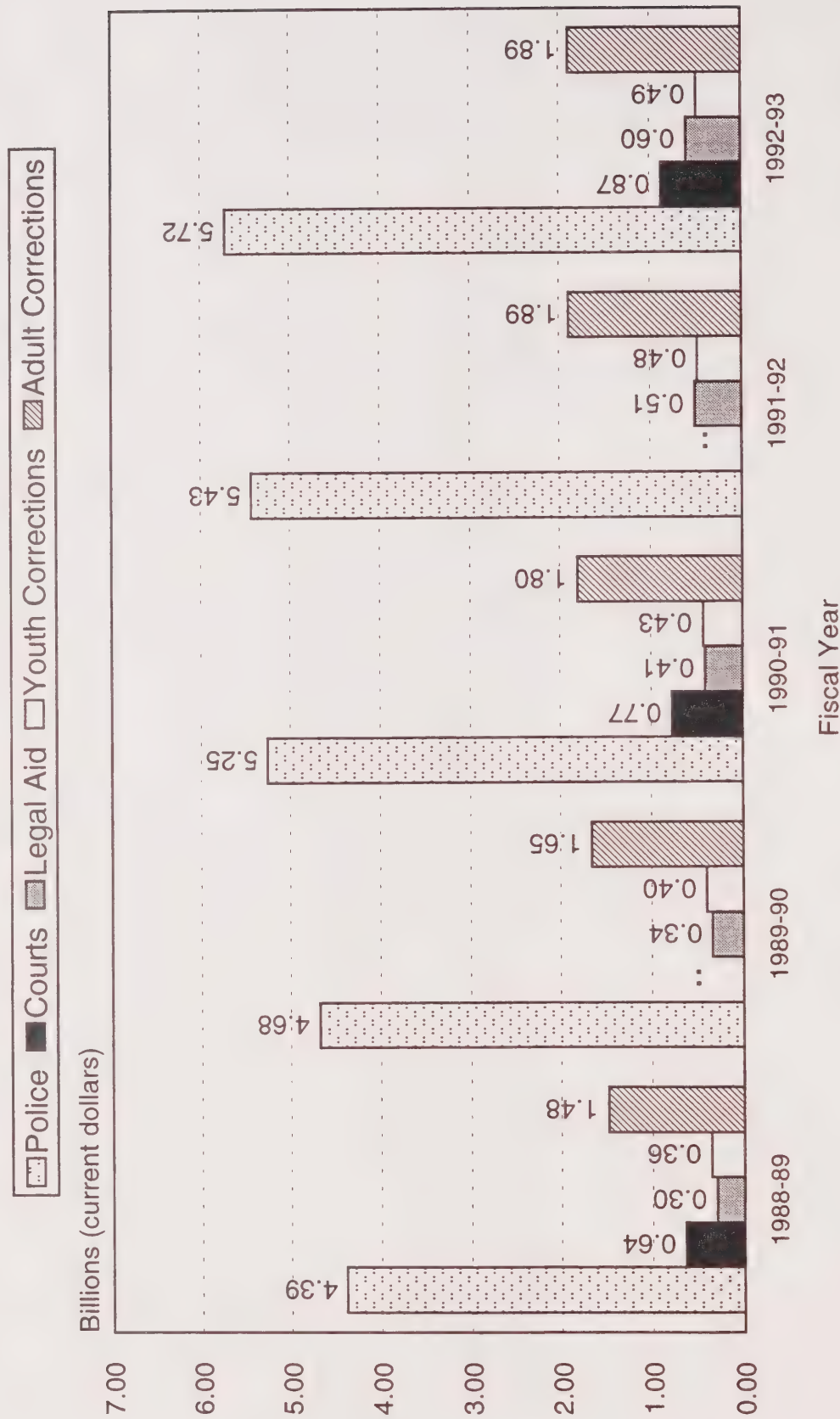
Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 16, "Trends in Justice Spending, 1988-89 to 1992-93."

- ◆ In 1992-93, government spending on police, courts (excluding prosecutions), legal aid and corrections totalled 9.57 billion dollars, an increase of 34% since 1988-89 (or 13% taking inflation into account).
- ◆ Justice services employed 119,883 people in 1992-93. This number represents an increase of 1% over 1991-92 and an increase of 6% over 1988-89.
- ◆ Increases in spending on the justice system are comparable to increases in total government spending on all services. The most recent data available (up to 1991-92) indicate that total levels of spending by all levels of government increased by 27% between 1988-89 and 1992-93. During this same period, justice spending increased by virtually the same amount (26%).

Figure 7.2

Total Justice Spending by Sector, 1988-89 to 1992-93



.. Data not available

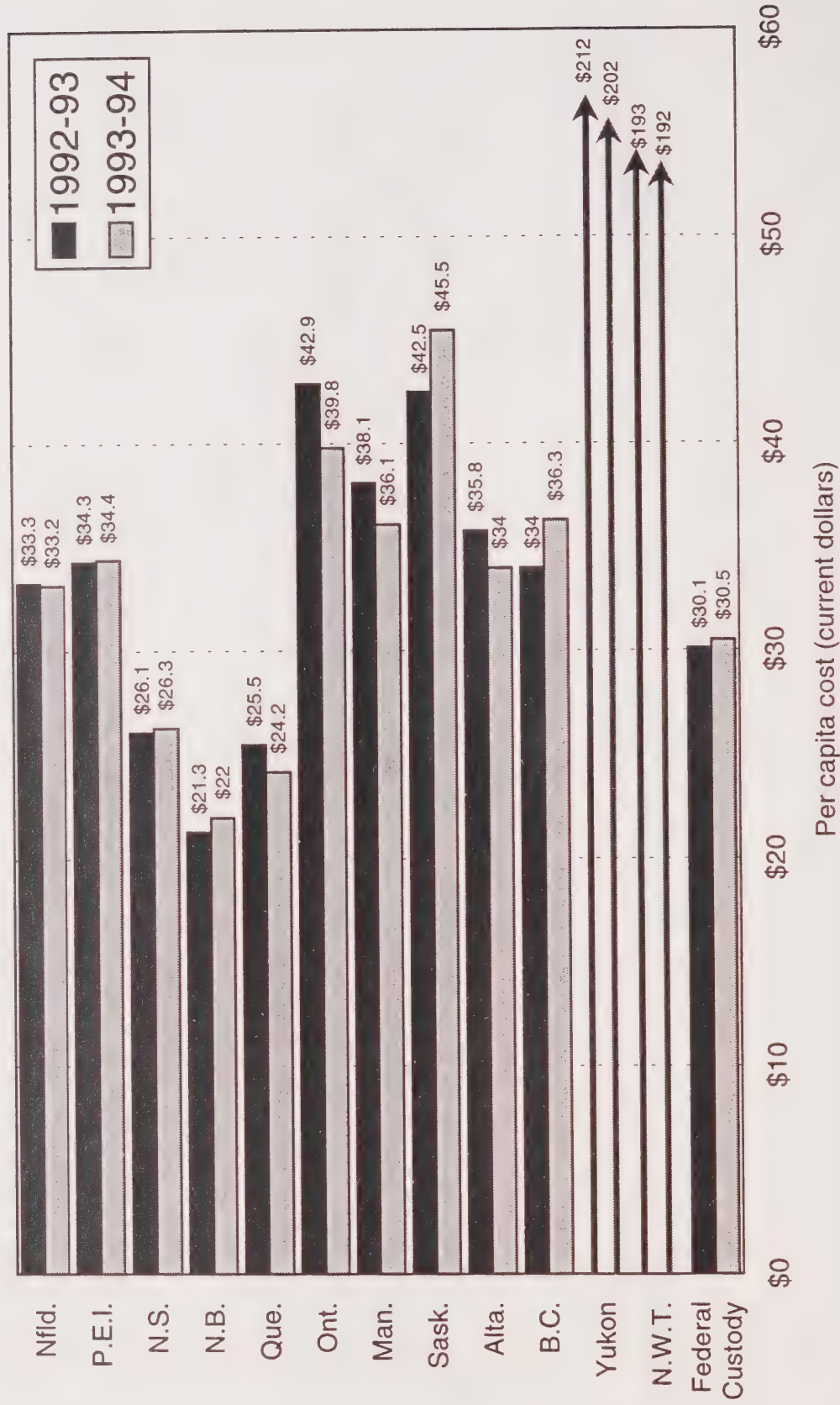
Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.

For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 16, "Trends in Justice Spending, 1988-89 to 1992-93."

- ◆ Government spending on justice services totalled \$9.5 billion in 1992-93, an increase of 34% since 1988-89.
- ◆ In 1992-93, expenditures on policing accounted for the majority of justice costs (60%), while expenditures on corrections accounted for 25% (20% on adults and 5% on youths), followed by courts (9%) and legal aid (6%).
- ◆ Expenditures on legal aid were the fastest growing component of the justice system, almost doubling between 1988-89 and 1992-93.

Figure 7.3

Provincial and Federal Adult Correctional Operating Expenditures, 1992-93 and 1993-94

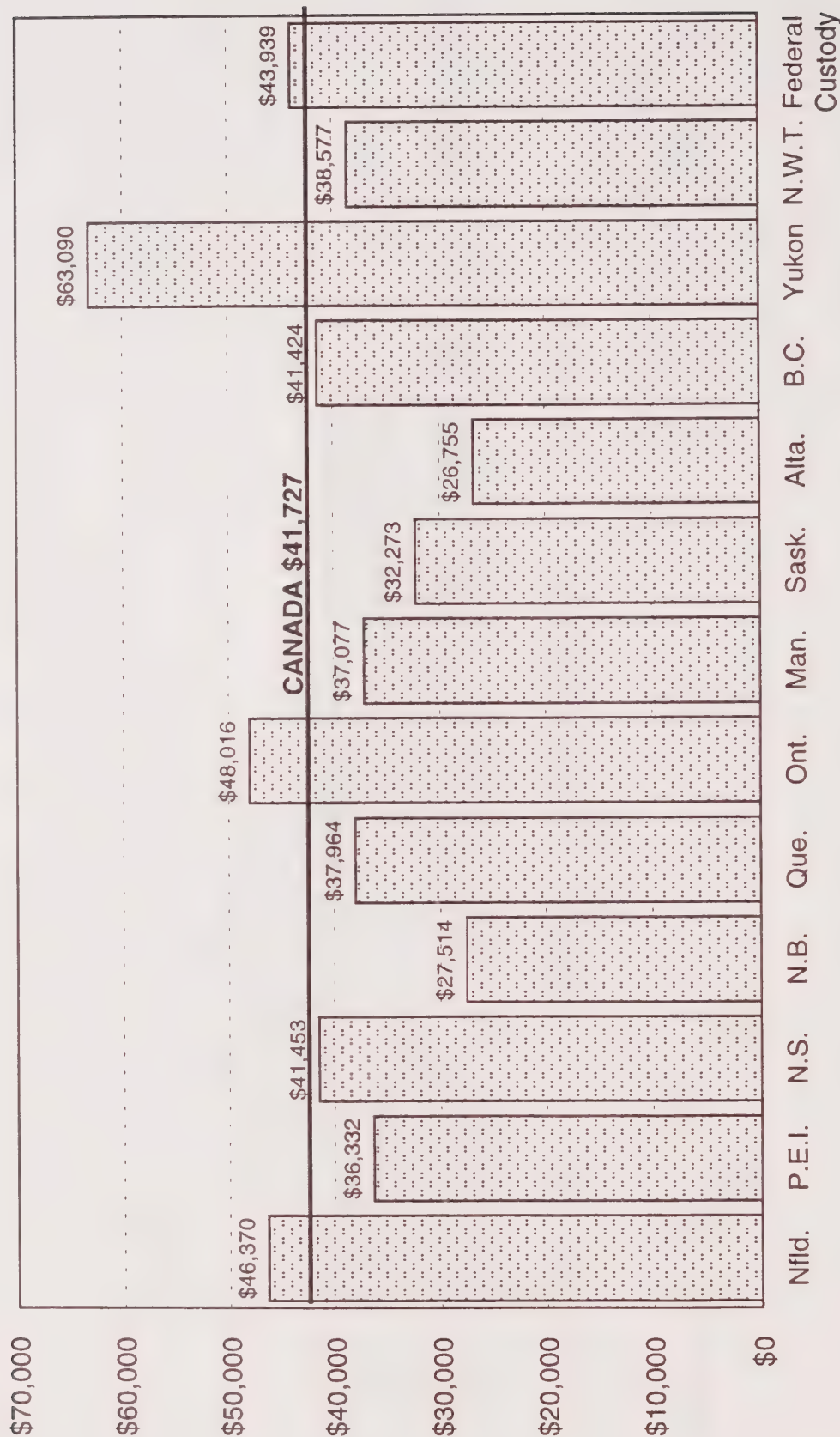


Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada, 1993-94 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, adult corrections cost each Canadian \$65. Of this amount, the average provincial per capita cost was \$34 while the cost at the federal level was \$31.
- ◆ In 1993-94, the average provincial per capita cost declined by 3.7% over the previous year while the federal per capita cost increased by 1.2%.

Figure 7.4

Average Annual Cost Per Adult Inmate in Canada, 1993-94



Source: Adult Corrections Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada.
For more information, see Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1993-94 (catalogue no. 85-211).

- ◆ In 1993-94, the average annual cost per adult inmate in Canada was \$41,727, a slight decrease below the 1992-93 average annual cost of \$42,238.
- ◆ The Yukon showed the highest annual cost at \$63,090 per inmate, followed by Ontario which reported a cost of \$48,016. Alberta reported the lowest annual cost at \$26,755 per inmate, followed by New Brunswick at \$27,514.

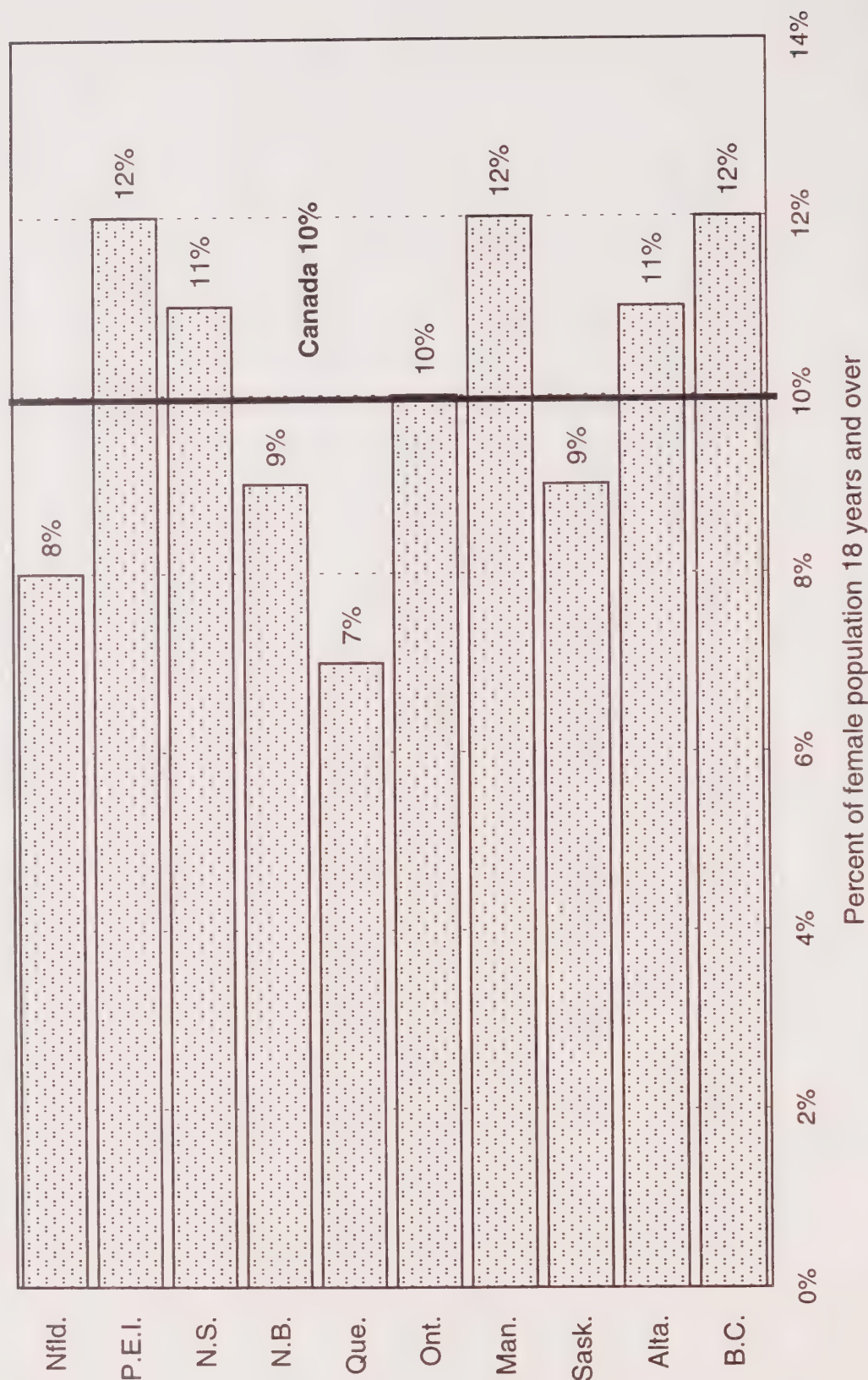


Section 8:

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN SURVEY

Figure 8.1

Violence Against Women in the Past 12 Months*, Canada and the Provinces, 1993



* The proportion of women 18 years and older who experienced physical or sexual assault (as defined by the Canadian Criminal Code) by a man within the 12 months prior to the survey.

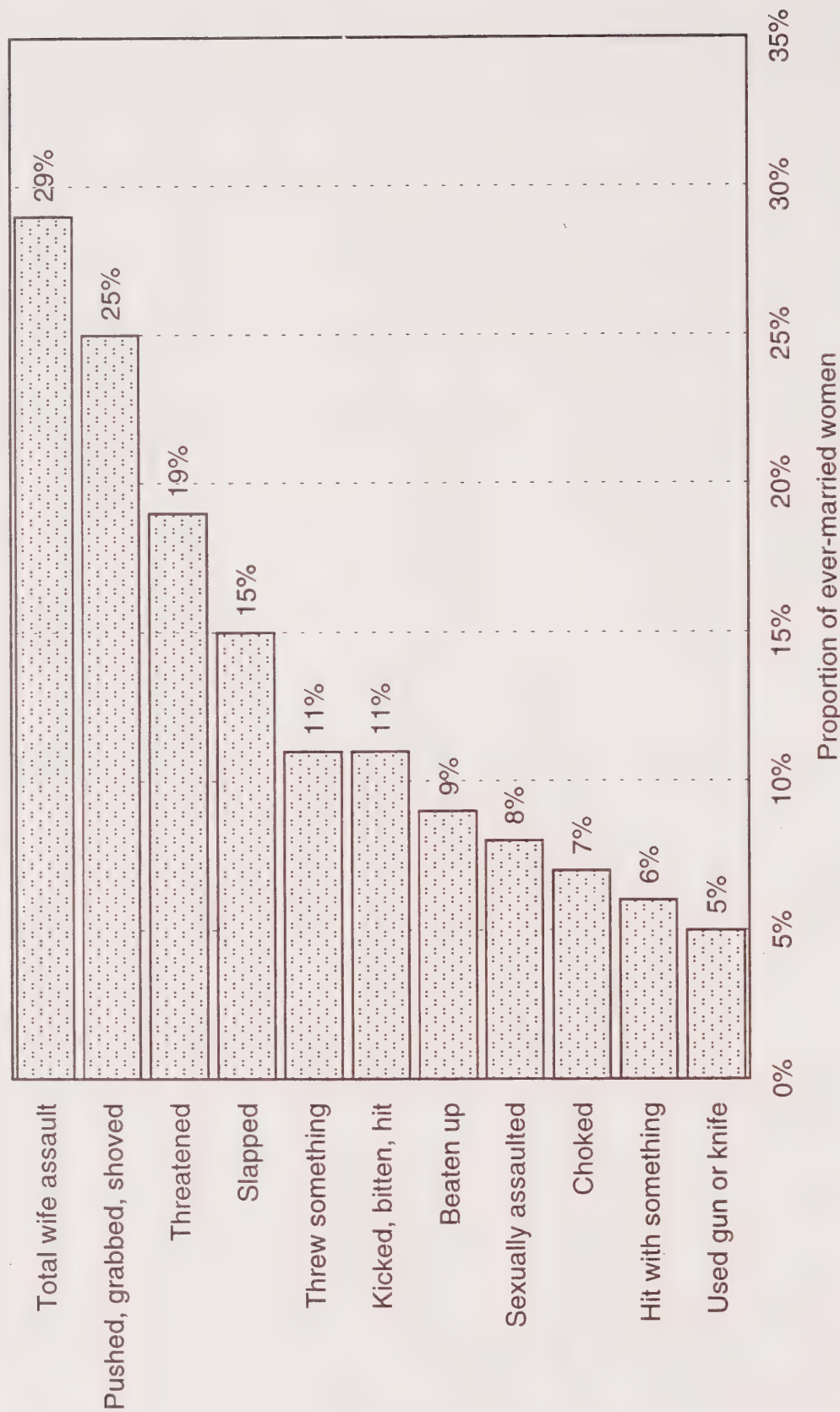
Source: Violence Against Women Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.

For more information, see VAWS: Survey Highlights 1993 (uncatalogued).

- ◆ 10% of all Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual assault by a man within the 12 months prior to the 1993 Violence Against Women Survey. 51% of all Canadian women have experienced at least one such incident since the age of 16 years.
- ◆ While the highest 12 month rates were reported equally by women in Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia, the lowest was reported by women in Quebec.
- ◆ An equal proportion of Canadian women said they were physically or sexually assaulted by a stranger (4%) or a man known to them (4%) within the 12 months prior to the survey. While 3% of all women reported being assaulted by their marital/common-law partner during this 12 month period, 2% experienced violence by a date/boyfriend.

Figure 8.2

Ever-Married Women Who Experienced Wife Assault* by Type of Violence, Canada, 1993



* Figures represent lifetime rates of wife assault (since the age of 16 years) by either a current or previous marital or common-law partner. Wife assault includes physical or sexual assault as defined by the Canadian Criminal Code, excluding unwanted sexual touching. Figures do not add to 100% because of multiple responses.

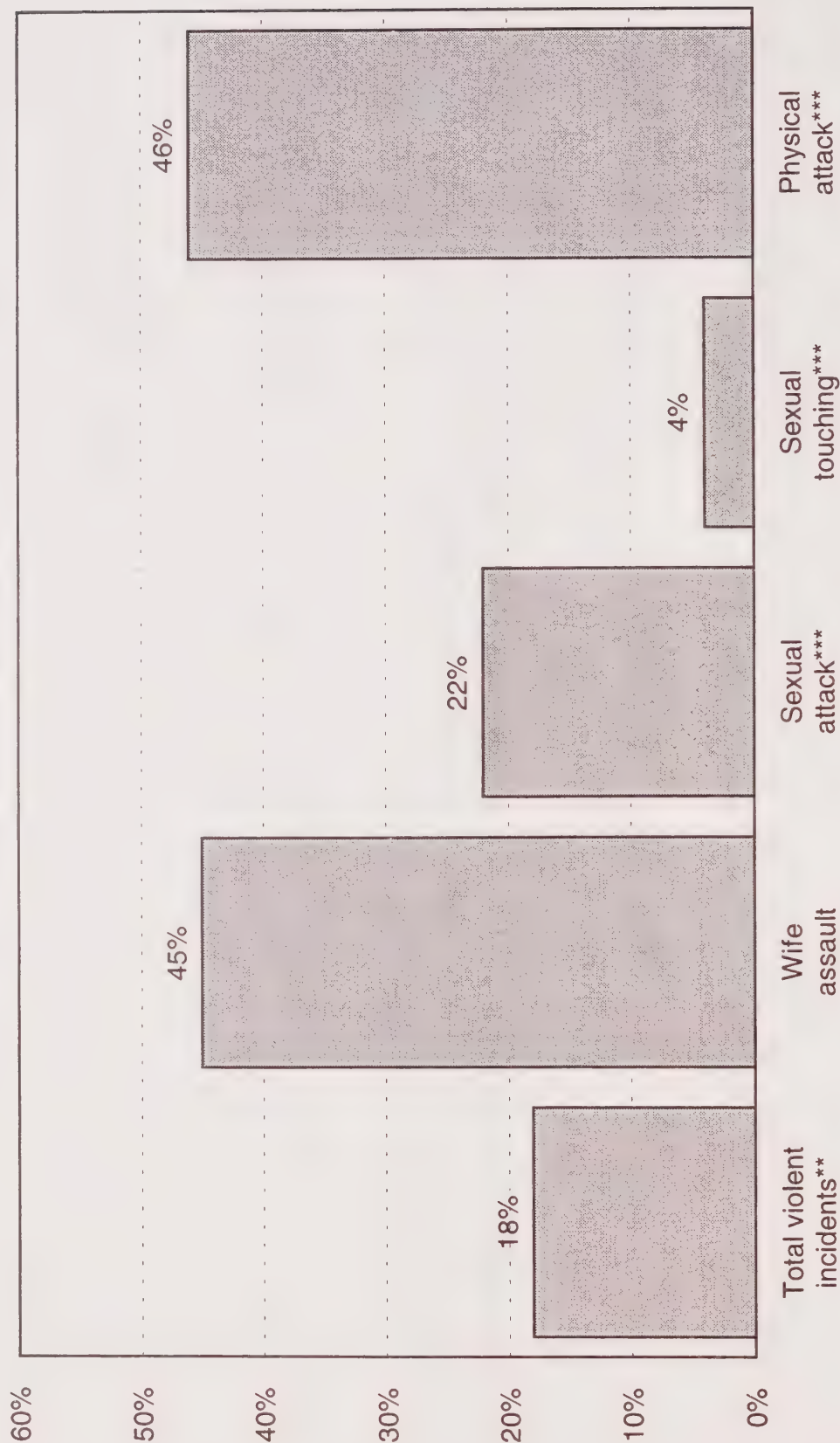
Source: Violence Against Women Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.

For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol.14, No.9, "Wife Assault: The Findings of a National Survey."

- ◆ 29% of ever-married women 18 years and older experienced violence at the hands of a current or previous marital/common-law partner.
- ◆ The most prevalent form of violence reported by women who experienced wife assault was pushing, grabbing, or shoving (25%).
- ◆ A significant number of women also reported being beaten up (9%), sexually assaulted (8%), choked (7%), hit with something (6%), and having had a gun or knife used against them (5%).
- ◆ 13% of women who reported violence in a current marriage have at some point felt their lives were in danger. The same is true for 45% of victims who reported violence in previous marriages.
- ◆ Only 2% of wife assault victims reported non-physical assaults (being threatened or having something thrown at them) as the most serious form of abuse they ever experienced at the hands of their partners.

Figure 8.3

Violent Incidents* Resulting in Injury by Type of Incident, Canada, 1993



* Incidents of physical or sexual assault (as defined by the Canadian Criminal Code) perpetrated by a man. Figures represent lifetime rates of violence experienced since the age of 16.

** Percentages do not add to 100% because of multiple responses.

*** Excludes wife assault.

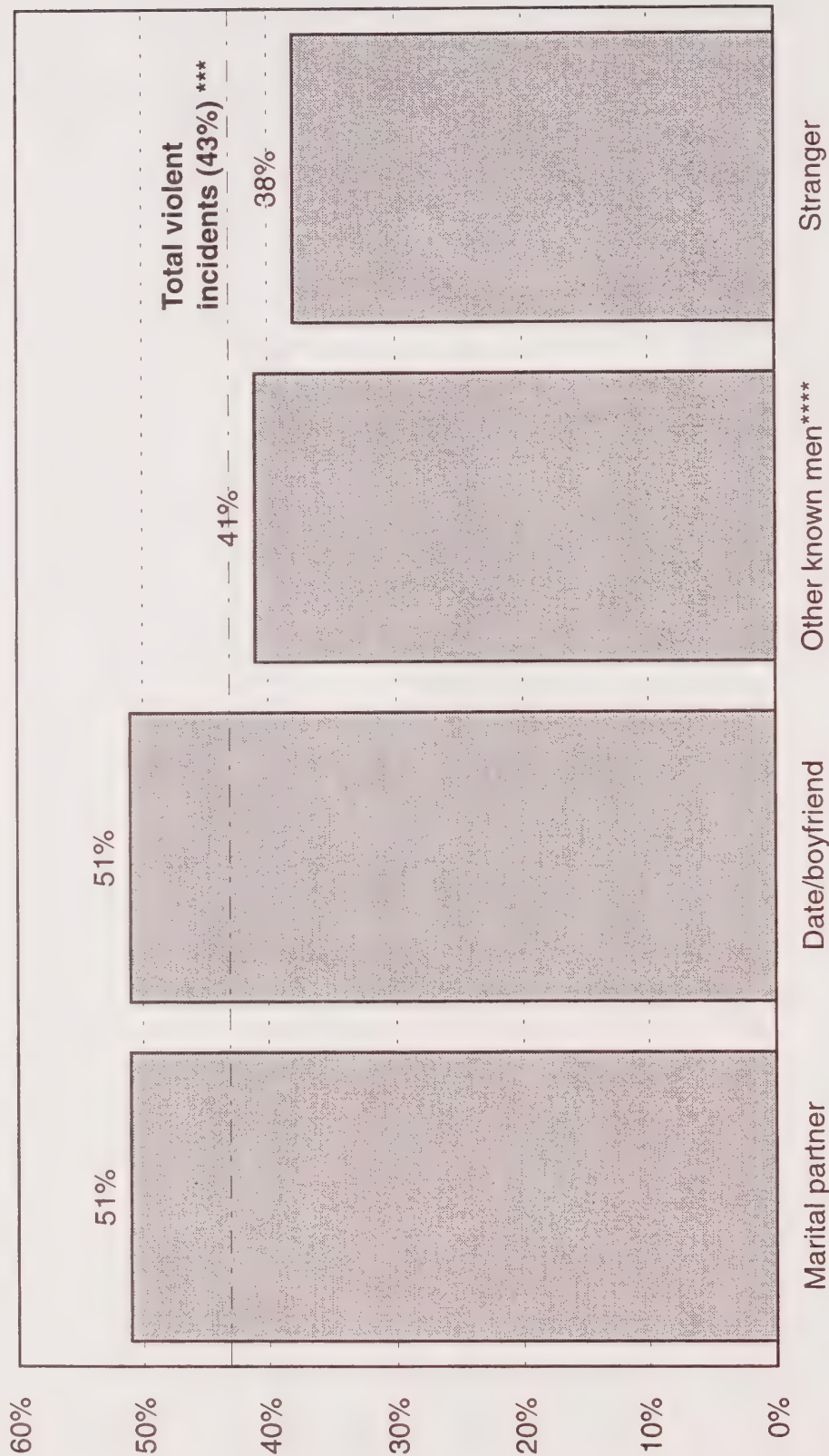
Source: Violence Against Women Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.

For more information, see VAWS: Survey Highlights 1993 (uncatalogued).

- ◆ While 18% of all violent incidents were reported to have involved physical injury, incidents of non-spousal physical attack (46%) and incidents of wife assault (45%) were those most likely to result in injury to the victim.
- ◆ More than one-quarter (28%) of all injuries received medical attention.
- ◆ Injuries inflicted by a spouse were twice as likely as other injuries to receive medical attention (43% compared to approximately 20% of others).

Figure 8.4

Violent Incidents* Where Perpetrator Had Been Drinking Alcohol** by Victim-Offender Relationship, Canada, 1993



* Incidents of physical or sexual assault (as defined by the Canadian Criminal Code) perpetrated by a man. Figures represent lifetime rates of violence experienced since the age of 16.

** Excludes incidents where the woman did not know whether or not the perpetrator had been drinking.

*** Percentages do not add to 100% because of multiple responses.

**** Includes friends, acquaintances, neighbours, family members (excluding spouses and dates/boyfriends).

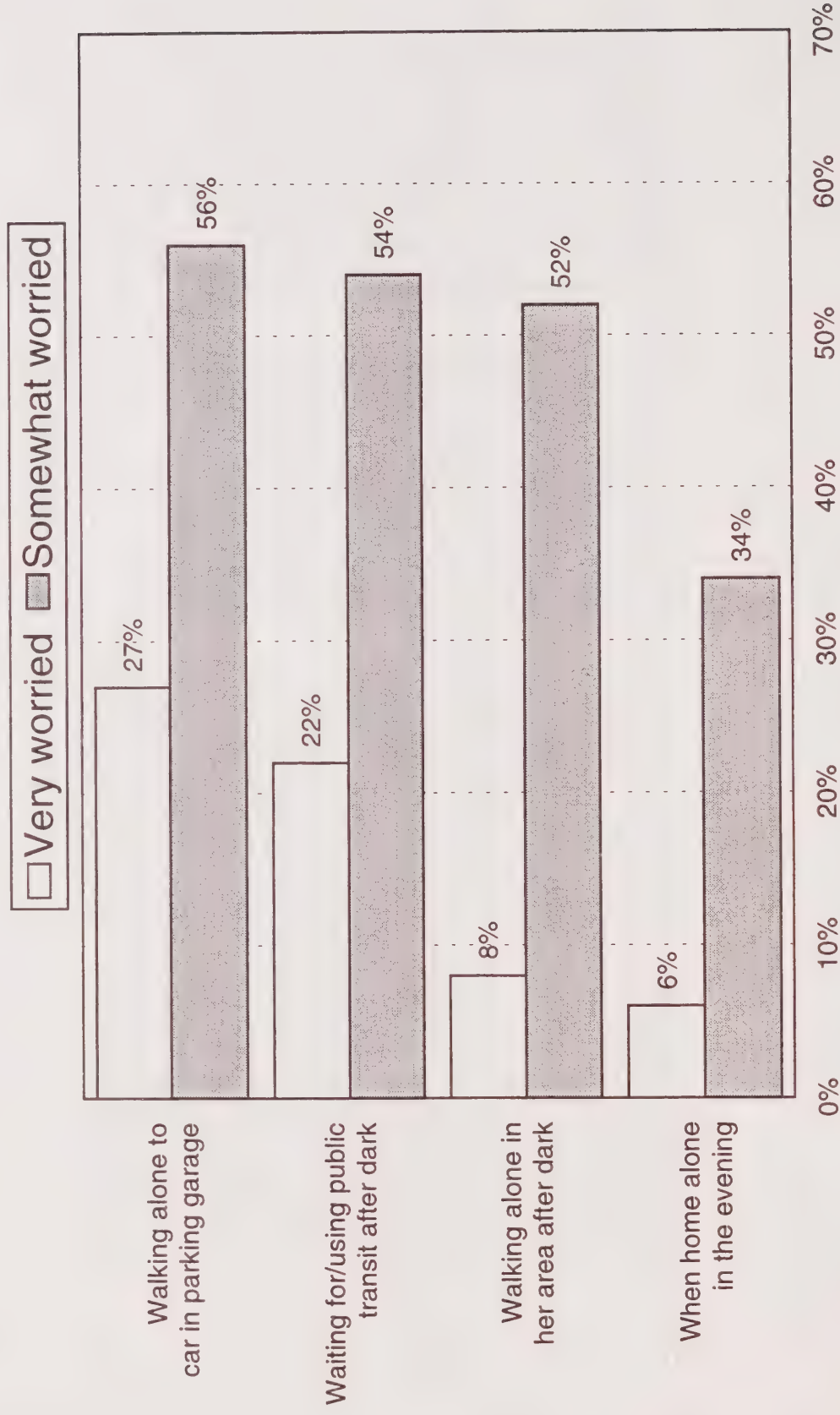
Source: Violence Against Women Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.

For more information, see VAWS Survey Highlights 1993 (uncatalogued).

- ◆ Alcohol was a prominent factor in women's experiences of violence.
- ◆ Victims were more likely to report that perpetrators had been drinking in cases involving intimates than in cases involving other known men or strangers.
- ◆ Rates of wife assault were 6 times higher among women living with men who drank heavily (those who frequently consumed 5 or more drinks at one time) than among women whose partners never drank.

Figure 8.5

Women Who are Worried When in Particular Situations* by Type of Situation, Canada, 1993



* Percentages based on those women 18 years and older who reported ever being in these situations.
Source: Violence Against Women Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.
For more information, see VAWS: Survey Highlights 1993 (uncatalogued).

- ◆ Many women are very or somewhat worried when in certain situations, particularly when walking alone to their cars in parking garages (83%) and when waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark (76%).
- ◆ Women who experienced at least one incident of violence since the age of 16 years were more likely to worry than women who had never been assaulted. For example 65% of women who had ever experienced violence by a man were very or somewhat worried when walking alone in their areas after dark, compared to 55% of women who had experienced no violence.
- ◆ Women in large urban centres were more likely to be concerned about their personal safety than women living in small urban centres/rural areas. For example, 68% of women residing in large urban centres were very or somewhat worried when walking alone in their areas after dark, compared to 49% of women living in small urban/rural areas.

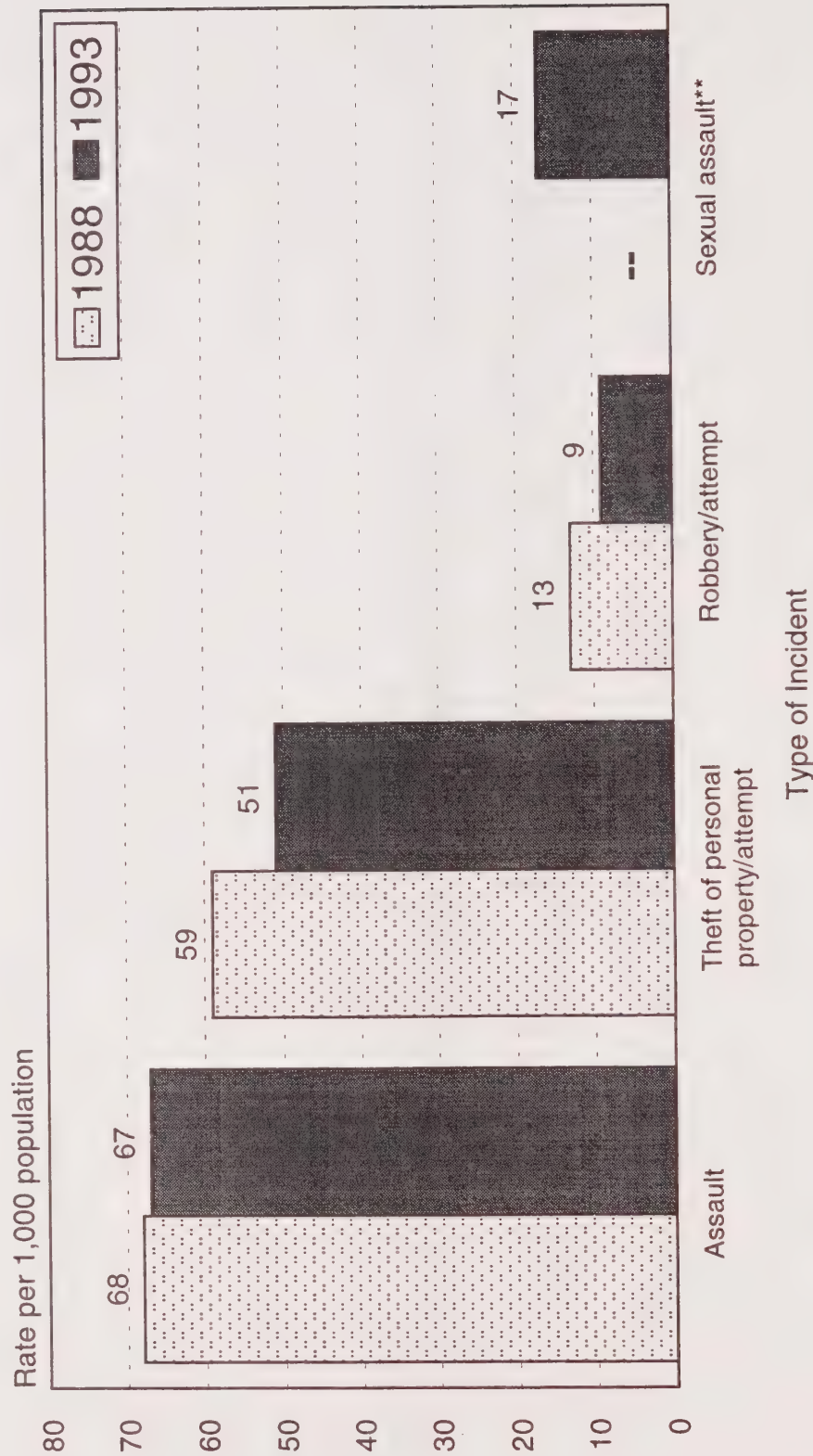


Section 9:

VICTIMIZATION, FEAR AND PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME: THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY

Figure 9.1

Personal Victimization Rates by Type of Incident, Population Age 15+, Canada, 1988 and 1993*

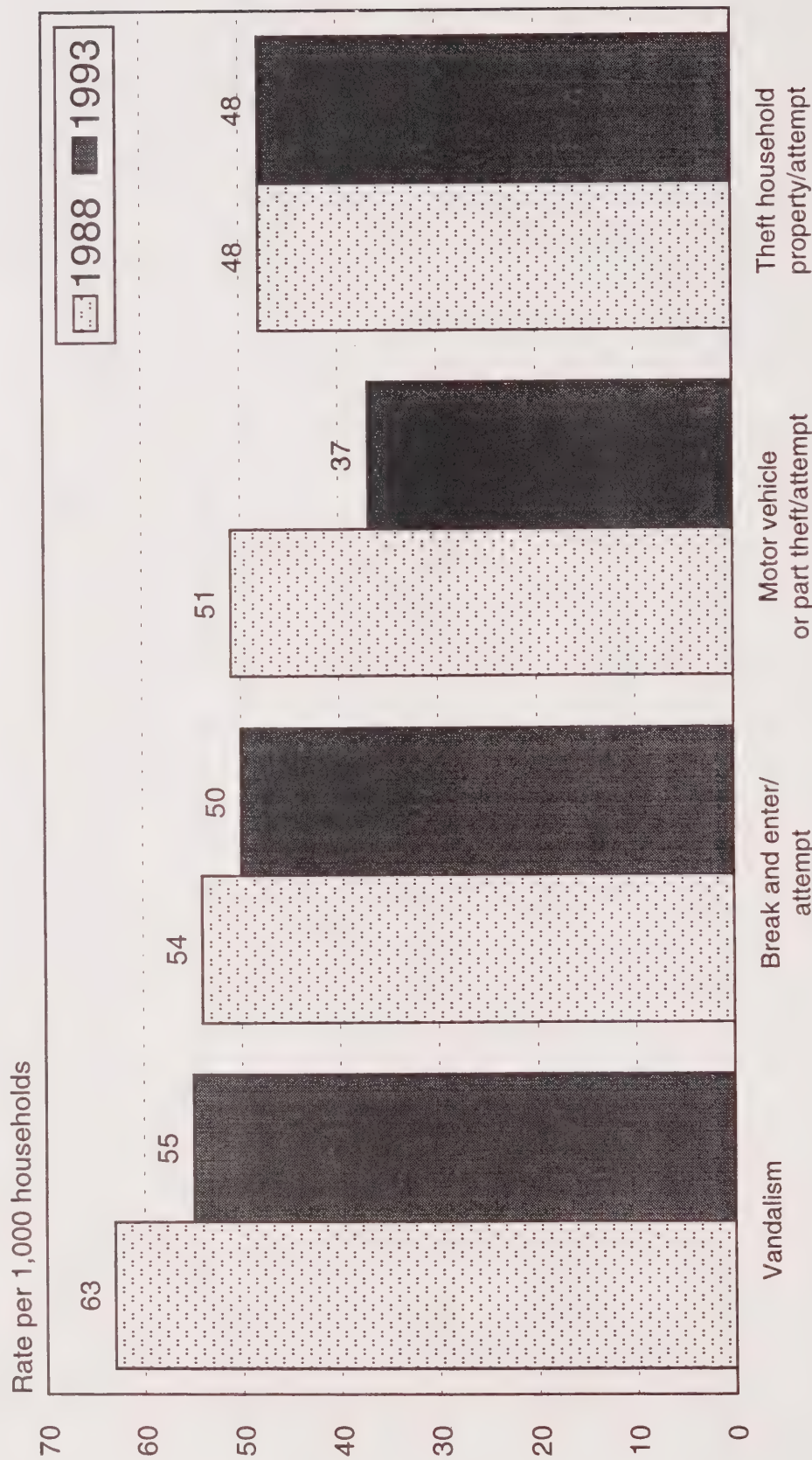


* The 1988 General Social Survey asked respondents about their experiences with crime within the calendar year of 1987 whereas the 1993 survey asked about experiences within the 12 months prior to the survey.
 ** Comparisons in the 1988 and 1993 rates of sexual assault as collected by the GSS cannot be compared due to improvements in question wording in the 1993 survey.
 -- not statistically reliable
 Source: General Social Survey, Statistics Canada, 1988 and 1993.
 For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 13, "Trends in Criminal Victimization: 1988-1993."

- ◆ According to the General Social Survey (GSS), the 1988 and 1993 rates of victimization are reasonably consistent across crime categories: while the 1988 and 1993 GSS rates of assault remained almost the same, the 1993 rate of robbery/attempt decreased by 31% below the 1988 rate and the rate of personal theft/attempt fell by 14%.
- ◆ Violent victimizations were more likely to have been committed by a stranger in 1993 than in 1988. The proportion of robberies/attempts committed by a stranger was greater in 1993 (67%) than in 1988 (45%) and the proportion of assaults committed by a stranger was also larger in 1993 (38%) than in 1988 (27%). Nevertheless, as in 1988, the majority of sexual assaults and assaults in 1993 were perpetrated by offenders known to the victim.
- ◆ Factors such as area of residence and gender may increase one's risk of victimization. In both 1988 and 1993, urban dwellers and young Canadians aged 15 to 24 years consistently reported higher rates of violent victimization than rural dwellers and older Canadians.

Figure 9.2

Household Victimization Rates by Type of Incident, Canada, 1988 and 1993*



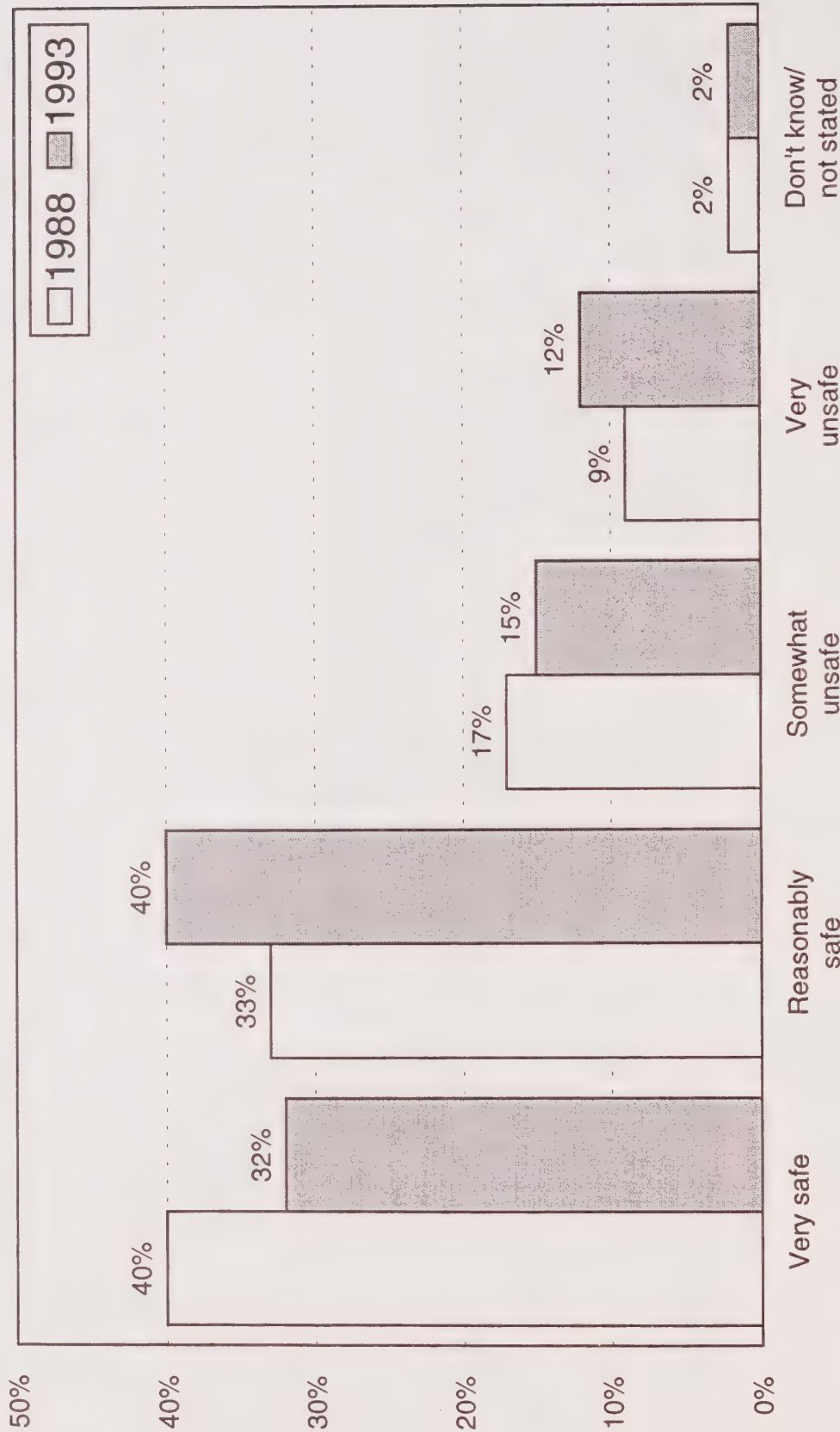
Type of incident

* The 1988 General Social Survey asked respondents about their experiences with crime within the calendar year of 1987 whereas the 1993 survey asked about experiences within the 12 months prior to the survey.
Source: General Social Survey, Statistics Canada, 1988 and 1993.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 13, "Trends in Criminal Victimization: 1988-1993."

- ◆ According to the General Social Survey, reported rates of break and enters (-7%), motor vehicle or part thefts/attempts (-27%), and vandalism (-13%) were lower in 1993 than in 1988.
- ◆ In both 1988 and 1993, rates of household victimizations were consistently lower among rural households than among urban households. In 1988, the rate of total household victimizations was 252 per 1,000 urban households versus 146 per 1,000 rural households. In 1993, rates of total household victimizations were 222 per 1,000 urban households and 133 per 1,000 rural households.
- ◆ 1988 and 1993 data show that households with higher incomes experienced greater rates of household crime. In 1988, households with incomes ranging from \$40,000 to \$59,999 reported the highest rate of total household victimizations than any other income group (296 incidents per 1,000 households). In 1993, households with an income of \$60,000 or more reported the highest rate of total household victimizations (254 incidents per 1,000 households).

Figure 9.3

Population 15+ by Feelings of Safety When Walking Alone in Their Neighbourhoods After Dark, Canada, 1988 and 1993*



* The 1988 General Social Survey asked respondents about their experiences with crime within the calendar year of 1987 whereas the 1993 survey asked about experiences within the 12 months prior to the survey.

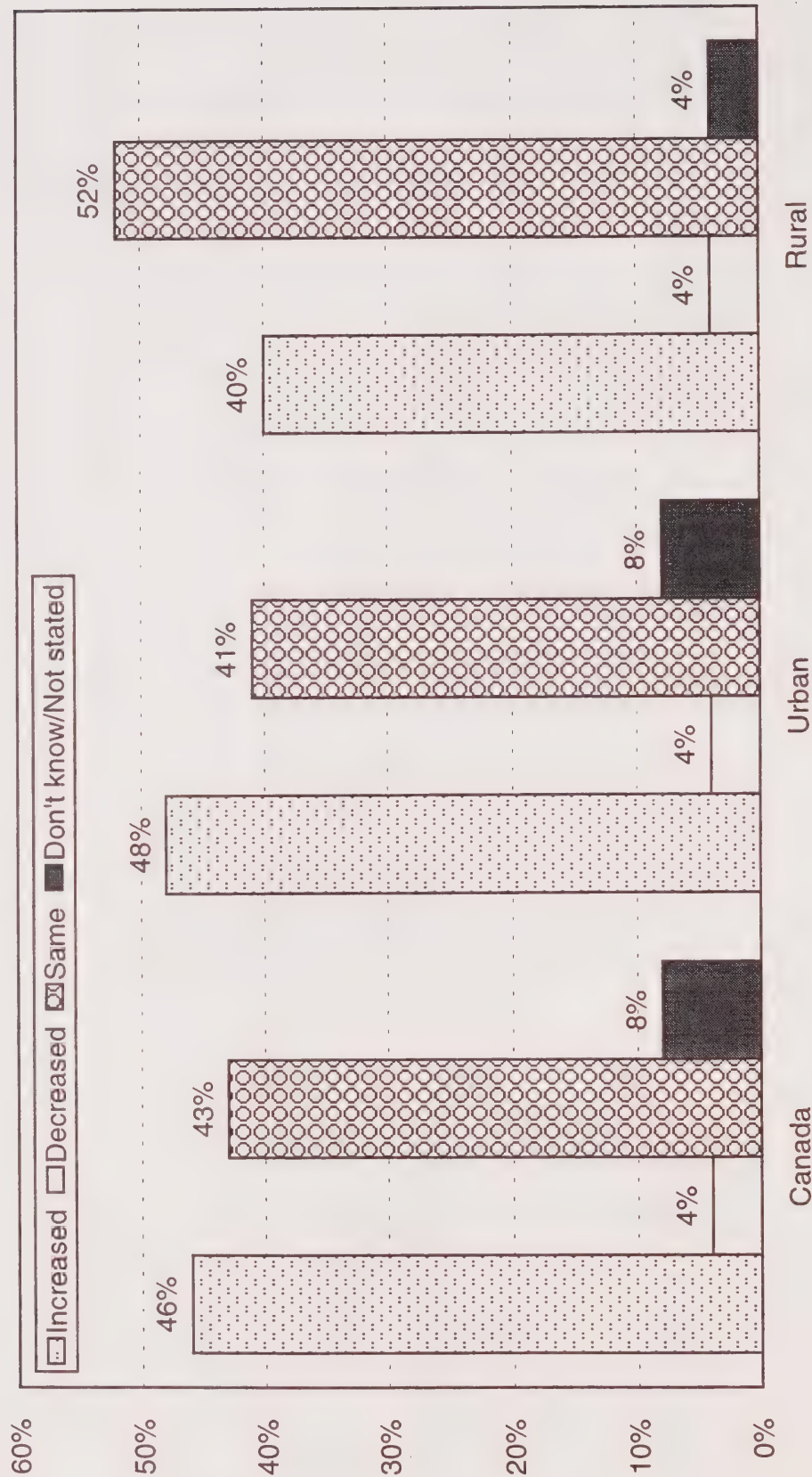
Source: General Social Survey, Statistics Canada, 1988 and 1993.

For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 13, "Trends in Criminal Victimization: 1988-1993."

- ◆ In both 1988 and 1993, the majority of Canadians reported feeling "very" or "somewhat" safe when walking alone in their neighbourhoods after dark. However, compared to 1988, feelings of safety among Canadians in 1993 had slightly shifted away from feeling "very" safe toward feeling "reasonably" safe.
- ◆ Feelings of safety can vary according to a number of factors such as gender and urban or rural residence. According to the 1993 General Social Survey, 10% of males and 42% of females felt "very" or "somewhat" unsafe while walking alone in their neighbourhoods after dark. The same was true of 29% of urban residents and 15% of rural residents. Results from the 1988 survey showed similar variations according to gender and area of residence.

Figure 9.4

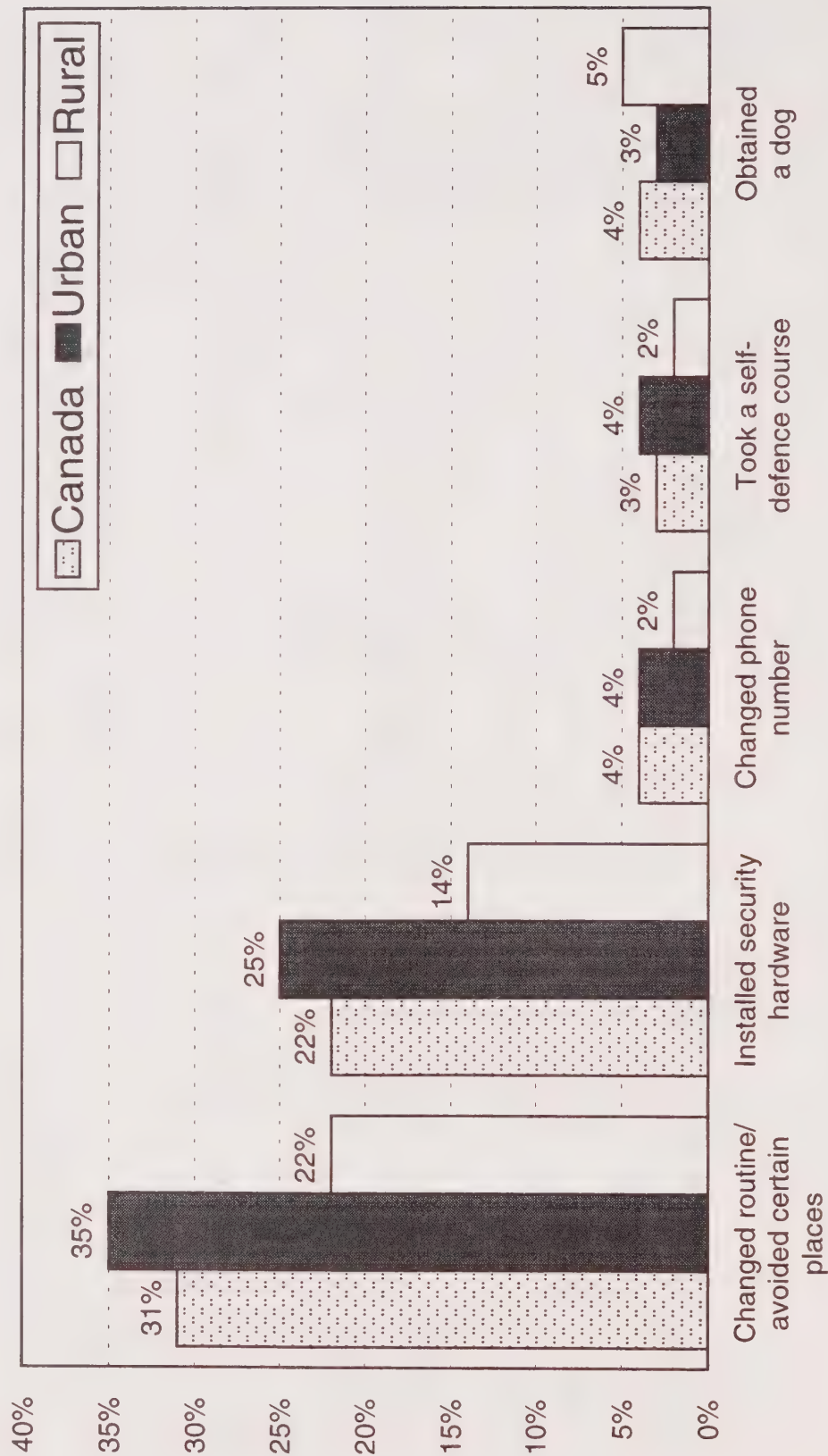
Population 15+ by Perceived Change in Level of Crime in Neighbourhoods During the Last 5 Years, Canada and Urban/Rural Residence, 1993



- ◆ Almost half of Canadians perceive the level of crime in their areas as having increased in the five years preceding the 1993 General Social Survey. Urban residents are more likely than rural residents to see this level as having increased.
- ◆ Few Canadians living in either an urban or rural area see the level of crime as having decreased.
- ◆ Perceptions of neighbourhood crime and feelings of safety are related: Canadians who perceive the crime level in their neighbourhoods to have increased are more likely to feel unsafe walking alone in their areas after dark (34%) than are those who believe that crime levels have decreased (17%) or remained the same (18%).

Figure 9.5

Population 15+ Who Adopted Specified Defensive Behaviours in the Last 12 Months, Canada and Urban/Rural Residence, 1993

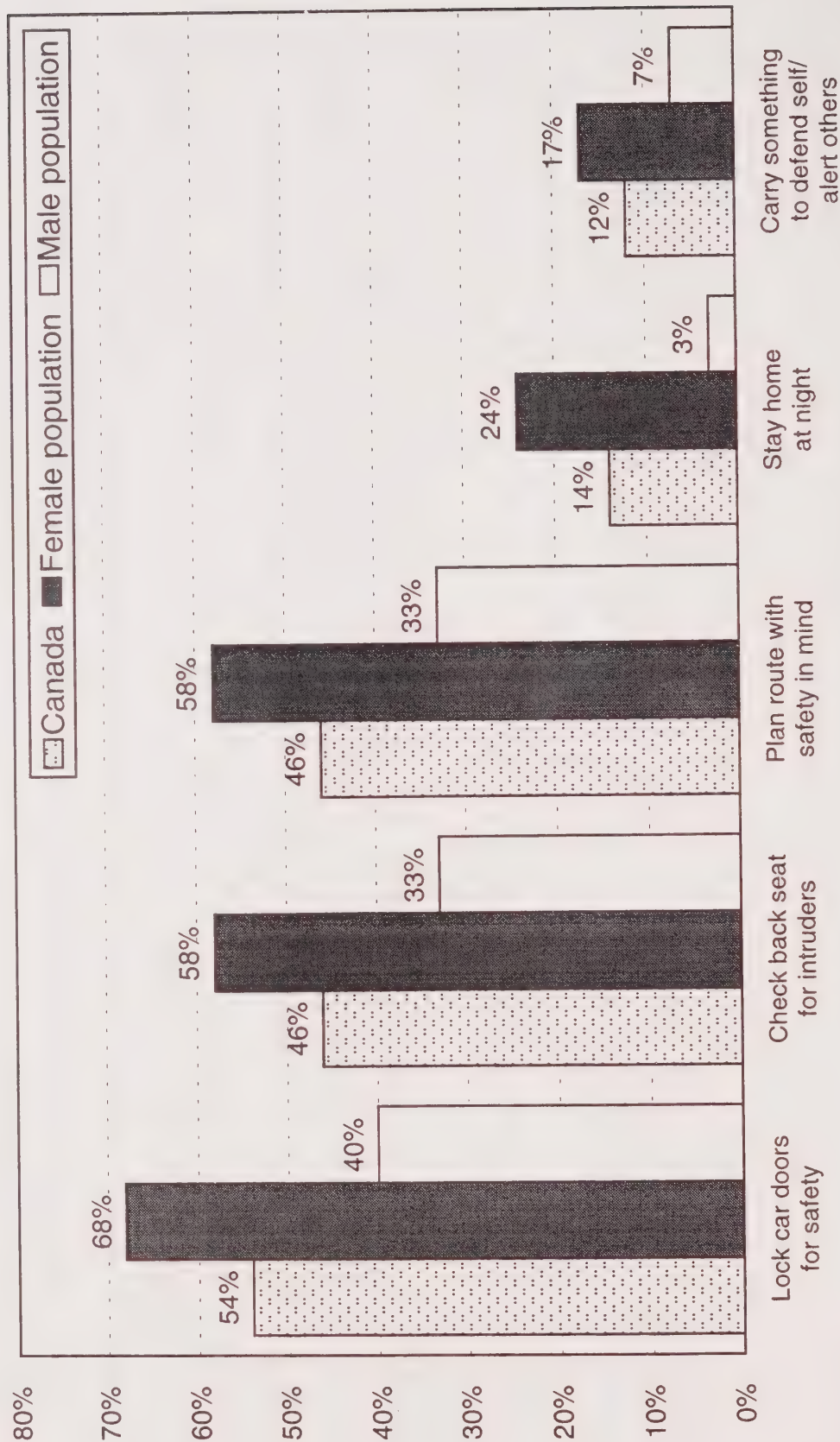


Source: General Social Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.
For more information, see Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002) Vol. 14, No. 17, "Urban/Rural Criminal Victimization in Canada."

- ◆ Urban residents are more likely to take steps to prevent themselves from being victimized. This is not surprising given that the GSS shows higher rates of victimization among urban residents and higher levels of fear.
- ◆ During the 12 months prior to the 1993 survey, changes in routine/avoidance of certain places and the installation of security hardware were the measures taken most often by Canadians. Less than one-quarter of rural residents changed their routine/avoided certain places to protect themselves from crime compared to over one-third of urban residents. Urban residents were also almost twice as likely as rural residents to have installed security hardware.

Figure 9.6

Population 15+ by Measures Routinely Taken to Increase Safety from Crime by Gender, Canada, 1993



Source: General Social Survey, Statistics Canada, 1993.
For more information, see Tables in Victimization (product no. 12F0042XPE).

- ◆ Women are much more likely than men to routinely take steps to protect themselves from victimization. They are more than twice as likely as men to routinely carry something to defend themselves/alert others and are eight times more likely to routinely stay home at night to avoid victimization.
- ◆ Overall, protective behaviours are less practiced among rural than urban residents, yet women living in both areas are consistently more likely than their male counterparts to routinely take precautions. For example, 20% of urban women routinely carried something to defend themselves, compared to 7% of urban men. The same is true among 12% of rural women and 5% of rural men.

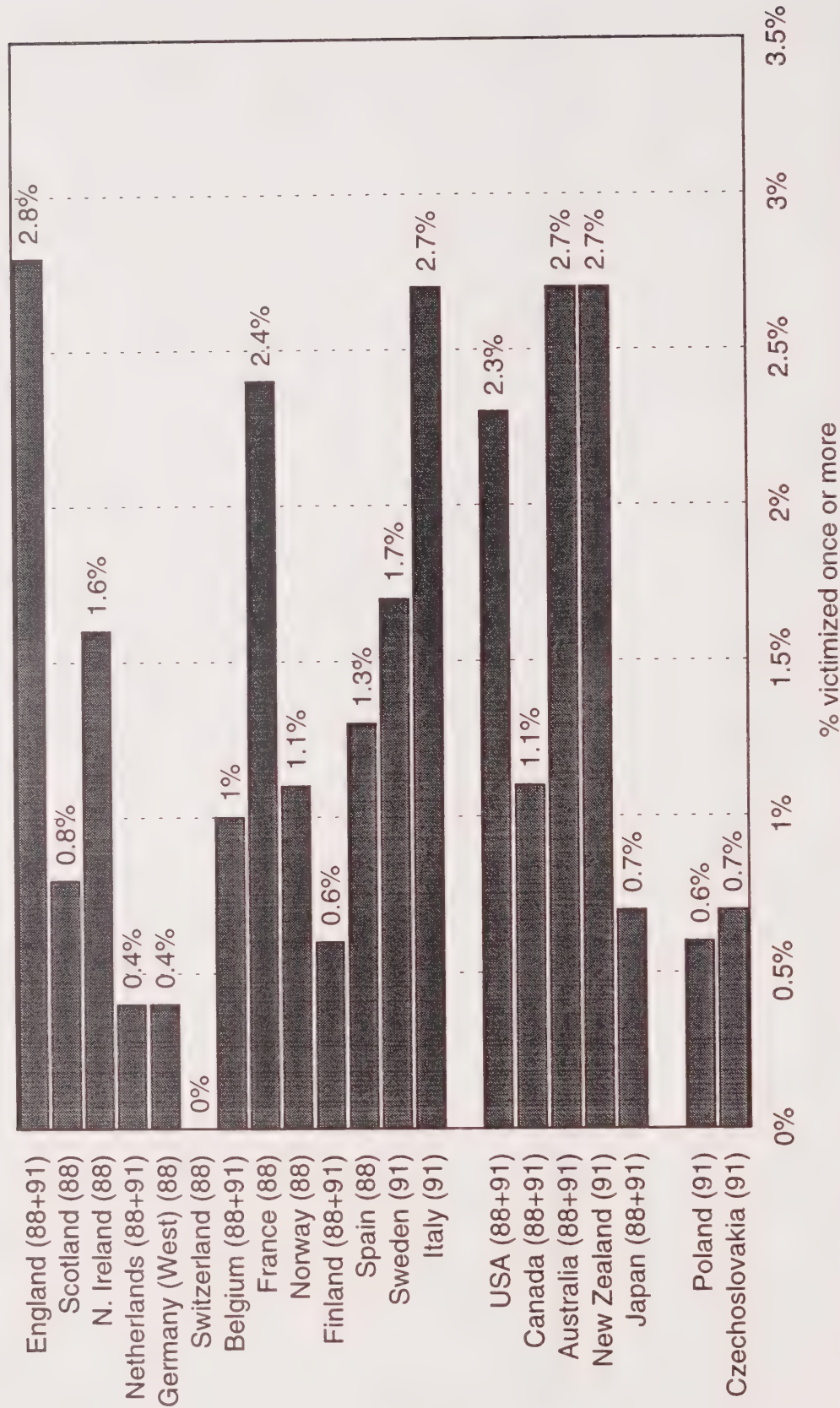


Section 10:

INTERNATIONAL CRIME SURVEY

Figure 10.1

One-Year* Victimization Rates for Theft of Cars

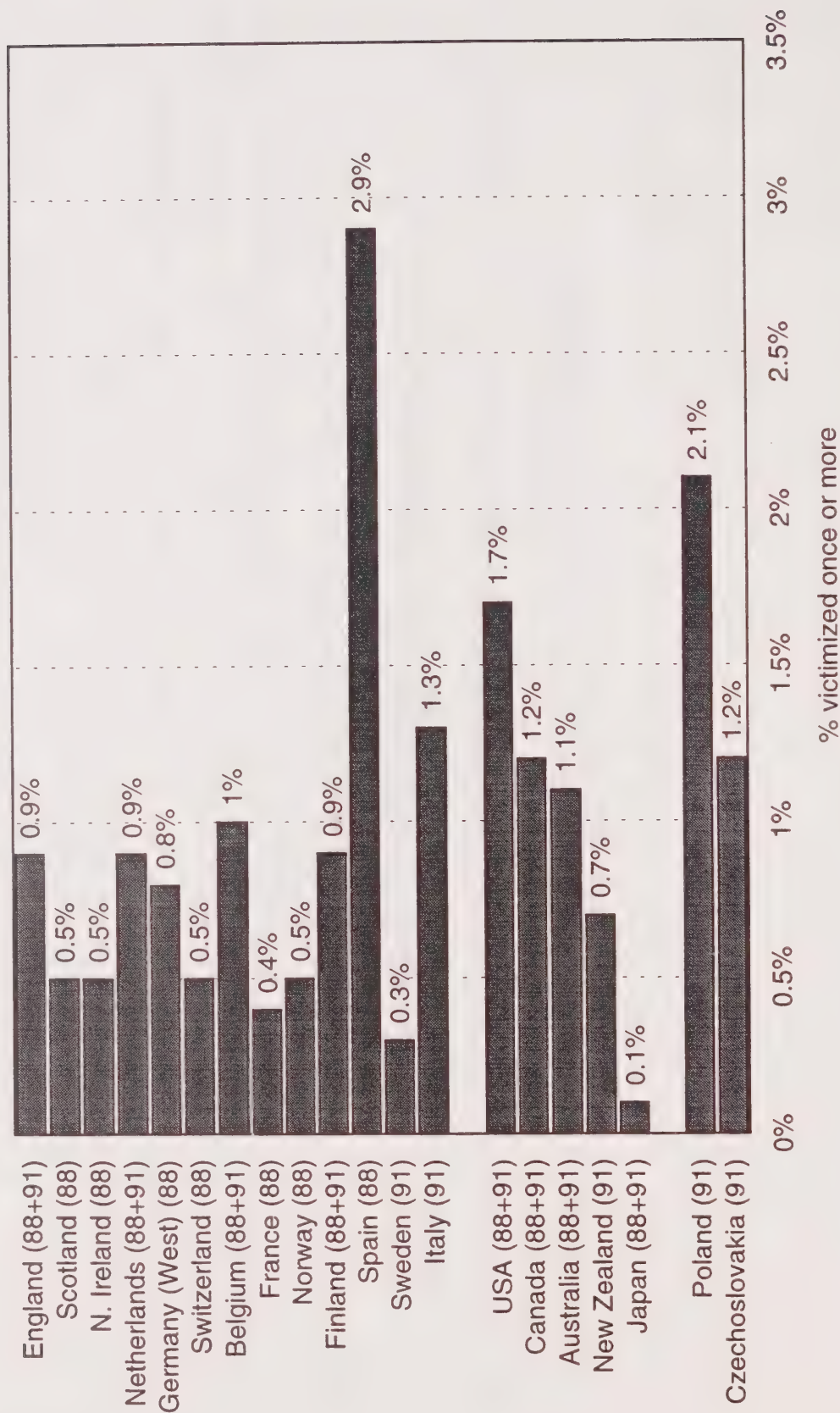


* The International Crime Survey collected data for 1988 and 1991. For those countries which participated in both cycles of the survey, an average of rates for both 1988 and 1991 is presented.
Source: Mayhew, Pat and Jan J.M. van Dijk, "Criminal Victimization in the Industrialized World: Key Findings of the 1989 and 1992 International Crime Surveys." Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands, 1992.

- ◆ In Switzerland, no respondent experienced a theft in 1988. Other countries with low rates are the Netherlands, West Germany, Finland, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Japan.
- ◆ The rate for car theft was highest in England, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, France and the USA.
- ◆ In both survey years, about three-quarters of stolen cars were eventually recovered. Rates of recovery were relatively low in Italy (42% in 1991), West Germany (56% in 1988) and the Netherlands (64%) suggesting that cars are less often stolen for temporary purposes such as joyriding. Recovery rates were higher in England, Scotland, the USA, Canada, Austria and New Zealand.

Figure 10.2

One-Year Victimization Rates for Robbery



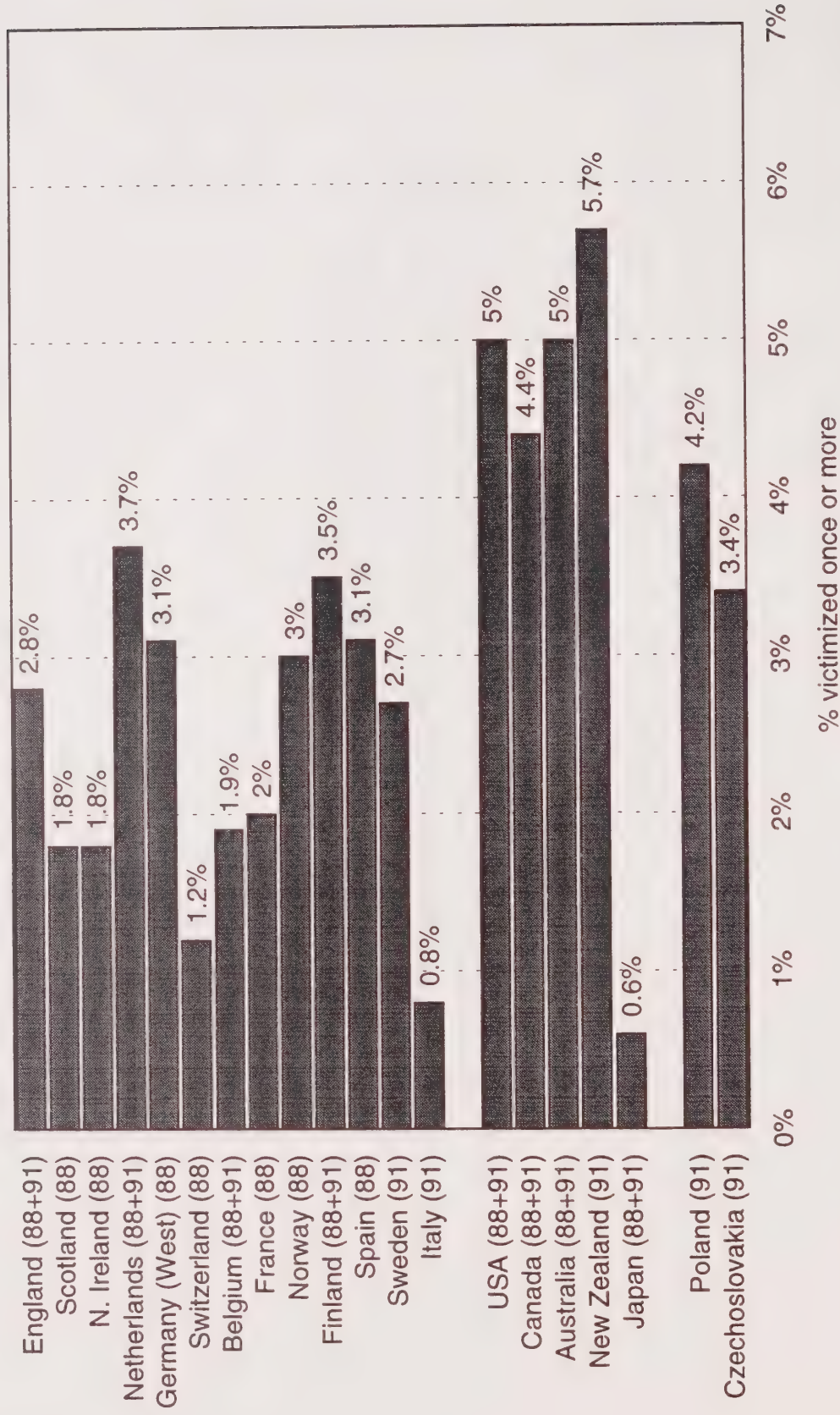
* The International Crime Survey collected data for 1988 and 1991. For those countries which participated in both cycles of the survey, an average of rates for both 1988 and 1991 is presented.

Source: Mayhew, Pat and Jan J.M. van Dijk, "Criminal Victimization in the Industrialized World: Key Findings of the 1989 and 1992 International Crime Surveys." Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands, 1992.

- ◆ The one-year victimization rates for robbery were highest in Spain (2.9% in 1988), Poland (2.1% in 1991) and the USA (a combined measure of 1.7% for 1988 and 1991).
- ◆ In about 40% of robbery incidents, the perpetrator(s) used a weapon. In 20%, a knife was used, and in 10% a gun. Spain showed a high percentage of robberies with knives, while Italy and the U.S. showed a high percentage with guns.

Figure 10.3

One-Year Victimization Rates for Assaults/Threats



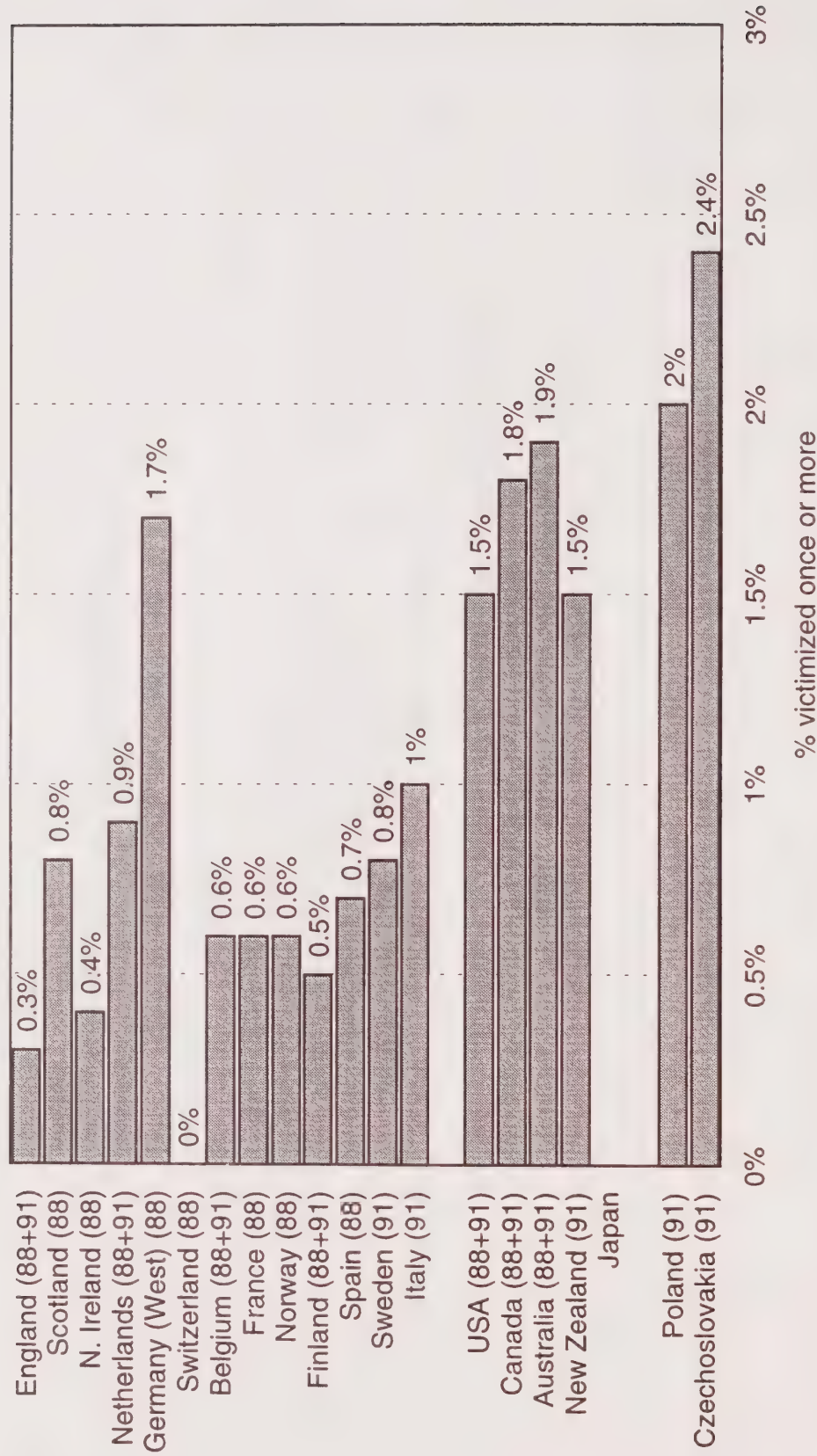
* The International Crime Survey collected data for 1988 and 1991. For those countries which participated in both cycles of the survey, an average of rates for both 1988 and 1991 is presented.

Source: Mayhew, Pat and Jan J.M. van Dijk, "Criminal Victimization in the Industrialized World: Key Findings of the 1989 and 1992 International Crime Surveys." Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands, 1992.

- ◆ The risk of assaults/threats was relatively high in New Zealand, the USA, Australia and Canada. The lowest rates were measured in Japan, Italy and Switzerland.
- ◆ In 40% of the incidents, the offender actually used force, as opposed to threatening behaviour. One-year risks for assault with force were highest in Australia (2.8%), New Zealand (2.5%), Canada (2.3%) and the USA (2.2%). The lowest rates were in Italy (0.4%), Switzerland and Belgium (0.7% each) and Japan (0%).

Figure 10.4

One-Year* Victimization Rates Among Women For Sexual Assault**



* The International Crime Survey collected data for 1988 and 1991. For those countries which participated in both cycles of the survey, an average of rates for both 1988 and 1991 is presented.

** Includes rapes, attempted rapes and indecent assaults.

Source: Mayhew, Pat and Jan J.M. van Dijk, "Criminal Victimization in the Industrialized World: Key Findings of the 1989 and 1992 International Crime Surveys." Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands, 1992.

- ◆ Rates of sexual assault were highest in Czechoslovakia (2.4%), Poland (2.0%), Australia (1.9%), Canada (1.8%) and West Germany (1.7%).
- ◆ In 1992, all respondents who mentioned experiencing a sexual assault were asked whether they considered the incident "very serious", "fairly serious" or "not very serious". On average, 40% of victims considered the incident "very serious", and 75% "very" or "fairly" serious.

Appendix A

Historical List of CCJS Publications

(see page 215 on how to order)

<u>Catalogue No.</u>	<u>Publication</u>
1995-1996	
85-522-XPB	Youth Court Statistics 1994-95 Canada: \$35.00, U.S.: US\$42.00, Other countries: US \$49.00
1994-1995	
uncatalogued	Summary Report: A Description of Family Maintenance/Support Enforcement Programs and Legislation in Canada. Canada: \$30.00; U.S.: US\$36.00; Other countries: US\$42.00
uncatalogued	Family Law Special Study: An Overview of Family Maintenance/Support Enforcement Legislation in Canada. Canada: \$30.00, U.S.: US\$36.00, Other countries: US\$42.00
uncatalogued	Family Law Special Study: A Description of Family Maintenance/Support Enforcement Programs in Canada. Canada: \$30.00, U.S.: US\$36.00, Other countries: US\$42.00
85F0016XPB	Selected Police Administration Characteristics of Municipal Police Departments, 1993. Canada: \$30.00, U.S.: US\$36.00, Other countries: US\$42.00
85F005XPB	Understanding the Canadian Criminal Justice System: Process Chart and Handbook. Canada: \$15.00, U.S.: US\$15.00, Other countries: US\$15.00
85F0015XPB	Legal Aid in Canada: Resource and Caseload Statistics, 1993-94. Canada: \$32.00, U.S.: US\$39.00, Other countries: US\$45.00
85-522	Youth Court Statistics 1993-94. Canada: \$35.00, U.S.: US\$42.00, Other countries: US\$49.00
85-219E/F	Adult Criminal Court Caseload Trends 1991-92 to 1993-94. Canada: \$30.00, U.S.: US\$36.00, Other countries: US\$42.00
85-214E/F	Adult Criminal Court Statistics 1993. \$30.00, U.S.: US\$36.00, Other countries: US\$42.00
85-211	Adult Correctional Services in Canada 1993-94. Canada: \$32.00, U.S.: US\$39.00, Other countries: US \$45.00
85-205	Canadian Crime Statistics 1993. Canada: \$42.00, U.S.: US\$51.00, Other countries: US\$59.00

85-217	Legal Aid in Canada: Description of Operations. Canada: \$35.00, U.S.: US\$42.00, Other countries: US\$49.00
85-538EVF	Criminal Justice Processing of Sexual Assault Cases. Canada: 35.00, U.S.: US\$42.00, Other countries: US\$49.00
85-510	National Directory of Courts in Canada. Canada: \$20.00, U.S.: US\$24.00, Other countries: US\$28.00
85-211	Youth Court Statistics 1992-93 (revised, JULY 1994). Canada: \$35.00, U.S.: US\$42.00, Other countries: US\$49.00
89-5410XPE	Family Violence in Canada. Canada: \$35.00, U.S.: US\$42.00, Other countries: US\$49.00

1993-1994

uncatalogued	Police Personnel Data - 1993
uncatalogued	Legal Aid Resources and Caseload, 1992-1993
uncatalogued	Adult Court Trends Report 1990/91 to 1992/93
uncatalogued	Adult Court Statistics 1992
uncatalogued	Common Assault in Canada
85-205	Canadian Crime Statistics 1992
uncatalogued	Drug Use and Crime
uncatalogued	Youth Court Statistics: 1992-93
uncatalogued	Police Expenditures, 1992/93
uncatalogued	Sentencing in Adult Provincial Courts: 1991 & 1992
uncatalogued	Legal Aid Handbook
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Custodial Remand in Canada - A National Survey

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Glossary of Terms

Absolute or conditional discharge: Where an accused pleads guilty to or is found guilty of an offence, other than one which carries a minimum punishment prescribed by law or is punishable by imprisonment for 14 years or life, the court may, instead of convicting the accused, direct that the accused be discharged absolutely or upon the conditions prescribed in a probation order. Although there must be a determination of guilt before a discharge may be imposed, the recipient of a discharge is shielded from the stigmatizing consequences of a criminal record.

Acquittal: The release or judicial discharge from an accusation of suspicion of guilt. An individual is acquitted by a court either when a verdict of not guilty has been rendered at the close of a trial or when an appellate court decision has absolved him or her of the charges that were the bases of the action.

Accused: A person who has been identified by police as an offender in an incident and against whom a charge may be laid in connection with that incident. Does not include suspects.

Admissions: An indicator of the utilization of correctional facilities. Admissions are the number of persons entering a correctional facility in a given time period. The Adult Corrections Survey collects the following information on those admitted to custody: sentence disposition/length; age and sex of the offender; ethnicity of the offender (i.e. native/non-native); and, offence for which the offender was convicted.

Adults: Adults consist of all persons aged 18 and over. As opposed to youths, the target group here falls under the delegation of the adult justice system.

Alternative measures: Actions other than judicial proceedings used to deal with a young person alleged to have committed an offence. These measures are not the responsibility of the police service but rather specific programs developed pursuant to section 4 of the *Young Offenders Act*. Young persons participating in Alternative Measures may or may not have been charged by police. The existence of such programs is one factor among many that are likely to explain the divergence between UCR and Courts data. In addition, youths may be diverted from the court system with a referral to an informal diversion program sponsored by the police service. These youths are not charged for the offence.

Appearance (Adult Criminal Court Survey): A court event recorded by the type of hearing for an accused appearing in court in relation to one or more charges, where all charges were first presented in the same court on the same date.

Average counts: An indicator of the utilization of correctional facilities. Counts describe the number of inmates in the institutions at a given instant and provide the average daily population in correctional institutions. The only other data collected by the Adult Corrections Survey in conjunction with the counts are the status of the inmates (remand/sentenced).

Case (Adult Criminal Court Survey): An accused person or corporation having one or more charges where the charges are first presented in the same court on the same date. Charges are linked to a case on the basis of court location, accused identifier and date of first court appearance.

Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA): An urbanized core with at least 100,000 population.

Cleared by charge: When a police investigation leads to the identification of at least one suspect, an "information" is laid against that person (i.e., the person is formally charged with at least one offence). From a statistical point of view, the laying of an information means that at least one actual incident can be "cleared by charge". An incident can be cleared by charge even if the police have not apprehended the accused person, provided that person has been identified and there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge.

Conditional release: The planned and gradual release of inmates into the community through release mechanisms such as day parole, full parole, temporary absence passes, and statutory release.

Constant Dollars: Dollar amounts calculated on a one-year base which adjusts for inflation making the yearly amount directly comparable.

Crime Rate: Refers to total police-reported Criminal Code actual incidents, excluding traffic. All crime rates are based on 100,000 population unless otherwise stated.

Criminal Code Incidents: An accumulation of violent, property and other criminal code incidents (e.g. arson, prostitution, mischief).

Criminal Code Traffic incidents: These incidents involve offences such as impaired driving, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, and failing to stop or remain at the scene of an accident. Incidents related to impaired driving account for over one-half of the incidents in this category.

Drug incidents: These incidents involve offences under the federal *Food and Drugs Act* and the *Narcotic Control Act*. These offences comprise possession, trafficking, importation or cultivation of various illicit, controlled and restricted drugs.

Elapsed Time From First Appearance to Disposition (Adult Criminal Court Survey):
The time taken to dispose of all charges for a case.

Federal correctional facility: Correctional facilities for adult offenders run by the Correctional Services of Canada (CSC) which is part of the federal Ministry of the Solicitor General. Offenders who are sentenced to an aggregate term of imprisonment of two years or more are the responsibility of CSC and are housed in federal correctional facilities. Federally sentenced offenders are first admitted to provincial correctional facilities to allow the offender to exercise their right to appeal (normally takes place within 30 days). Federally sentenced offenders who waive their right are then transferred to a federal correctional facility (penitentiary).

Homicide: Homicide incidents include first and second degree murder, manslaughter and infanticide.

Median: The median refers to the middle value when data are ranged in order of magnitude.

Mischief - Bill C-18: Bill C-18 changed the way mischief offences are categorized. Before 1986, mischief offences were distinguished between damage to public property and damage to private property. Since the amendment, mischief has been categorized according to the value of property damage: mischief with property damage over \$1,000, and mischief with property damage \$1000 and under.

Most Serious Disposition (Adult Criminal Court Survey): A rule that applies in the event that a case contains more than one charge. Dispositions are ordered from most to least serious as follows: found guilty as charged or guilty of a lesser or included offence; committed for trial in Superior Court; other (acquitted on account of insanity, waived in/out of province or territory, other); stay of proceedings; acquitted, withdrawn, dismissed, discharged at preliminary hearing; unknown.

Most Serious Sentence (Adult Criminal Court Survey): A rule that applies in the event that more than one sentence is associated with a charge or the most serious conviction for a case. Sentences are ordered from most to least serious as follows: prison; probation; fine; restitution/compensation; other (absolute discharge, conditional discharge, suspended sentence; payment of legal costs, other suspension of driver's license).

Most Significant Charge (Youth Court Survey): The most serious charge from the perspective of the final outcome of the case upon adjudication or disposition. Where a person or case has only one charge, it is defined as the most significant. Where more than one charge is linked to a person or case, three criteria are used to select one charge as the most significant: (1) the decision of the court; (2) the nature of the offence; (3) the disposition of the charge. Decisions are ordered from most to least serious as follows: transfer to adult court; guilty; other decision (not fit to stand trial); stay of proceedings, charges withdrawn, or transfer to other jurisdiction; not guilty or charges dismissed. Where two or more charges have the highest priority decision, the charge with the most serious offence is selected as the most significant. Violent charges are given first priority in the selection process, followed by drug and narcotic offences, property offences, other Criminal Code offences, offences under the Young Offenders Act, and other federal statute offences. Offences are prioritized within these offence categories. Where two or more charges are tied at this level, the charge with the most significant disposition is selected.

Most Significant Decision (Youth Court Survey): The most serious decision rendered for a person or case. Decisions are ordered from the most to least serious as follows: transfer to adult court; guilty; other decision (not fit to stand trial); stay of proceedings, charges withdrawn, or transfer to other jurisdiction; not guilty or charges dismissed.

Most Significant Disposition (Youth Court Survey): The most serious disposition for a person or case. The seriousness of the disposition is determined by the effect it has on the young person. Dispositions are ordered from the most to the least serious as follows: secure custody; detention for treatment; open custody; probation; fine; compensation; pay purchaser; compensation in kind; community service order; restitution; prohibition, seizure or forfeiture; other disposition; absolute discharge. If the disposition with the highest priority is a fine, compensate or pay purchaser, and there is a combination of these, the disposition with the largest dollar value is selected as the most significant. In the event that multiple charges result in multiple custody orders, the highest priority is assigned to the longest custody order. The same situation applies in the case of multiple probation orders.

Other Criminal Code incidents: These incidents involve the remaining *Criminal Code* offences that are not classified as violent or property (excluding traffic offences). Examples are mischief, bail violations, disturbing the peace, arson, prostitution and offensive weapons.

Open custody: Custodial facilities for young offenders may be designed as either "open" or "secure". Open custody facilities closely monitor the actions and whereabouts of young offenders, but the residents are allowed to leave the facility for reasons such as attending school. Group homes are an example of an open custody facility.

Other Federal Statute offences: These incidents include violations under federal statutes other than the *Criminal Code*, the *Narcotics Control Act* and the *Food and Drug Act*. About one-half of the incidents in this category fall under the *Canada Shipping Act*, the *Immigration Act*, the *Customs Act*, the *Excise Act*, and the *Bankruptcy Act*.

Persons charged: The Uniform Crime Reporting Survey records the number of persons charged in association with cleared incidents. For incidents cleared, the UCR survey collects the number of adults charged (male and female) as well as the number of youths charged (male and female). The "persons charged" category includes the number of people charged or recommended for charges by police, *not* the number of charges laid or recommended against those people.

Probation: Probation orders are dispositions imposed by the Court that are a non-custodial sentence. They are the release of an offender into the community under the supervision of a probation officer. The release is conditional on the offender acting in a manner stipulated by his or her probation officer.

Property incidents: These incidents involve unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the use or threat of violence against an individual. Theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods are examples of property crimes.

Provincial correctional facility: Correctional facilities that are run by the provincial or territorial correctional services. Offenders who are sentenced to an aggregate term of imprisonment which is less than two years are the exclusive responsibility of provincial/territorial correctional services and are housed in provincial correctional facilities. Federal offenders sentenced to two years or more are first admitted to provincial correctional facilities to allow the offender to exercise their right to appeal (normally takes place within 30 days). Federally sentenced offenders who waive their right are then transferred to a federal correctional facility (penitentiary).

Rate per 100,000 population: "Rate per 100,000 population" refers to the total number of incidents divided by the total population and multiplied by 100,000. A "rate" is an approximation of the relative risk of being victimized by a criminal act. Rates may be calculated per other standard populations. For instance, the General Social Survey calculates criminal victimization incidents per 1,000 population.

Remand: Typically, a person is remanded into custody pending the arrangement of Judicial Interim Release, or to ensure that the accused appears in court, or to protect society from the accused.

Reported incidents: When a crime is reported to the police by a citizen, the incident is recorded as a "reported" incident. Police then conduct a preliminary investigation to determine the validity of the report. In addition, "reported" incidents include those which are uncovered by the police themselves.

Restitution/compensation: The act of paying the crime victim for any loss, damage or injury through monetary payment or through the performance of specified services for the victim.

Secure custody: Custodial facilities for young offenders may be designed as either "open" or "secure". Secure custody facilities are often called Youth Detention Centres and the premises are secured and the movement of young offenders is strictly monitored.

Stay of proceedings: A halt by the Crown in the judicial proceedings where the court will not take further action until the occurrence of some event. A stay can be temporary or permanent. The effect is to suspend the proceedings rather than to terminate them altogether.

Suspended sentence: Where an accused pleads guilty or is found guilty of an offence, other than one which carries a minimum sentence or is punishable by 14 years or life imprisonment, a sentencing court may suspend the passing of sentence and direct that the offender be released upon the conditions prescribed in a probation order. This sentencing option allows the court to later impose any sentence that could have been imposed if the passing of sentence had not been suspended, a decision which may be taken if the offender violates his/her probation order.

Violent incidents: These incidents, as collected by the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, involve offences that may result in physical injury to a person. These include homicide, attempted murder, various forms of sexual and non-sexual assault, robbery and abduction. Traffic incidents that result in death or bodily harm are included under *Criminal Code* traffic incidents.

Young Offenders Act (YOA): The YOA came into effect in 1984, replacing the Juvenile Delinquents Act (JDA). At this time, 12 became the minimum age requirement for criminal responsibility under the YOA. However, it was not until 1985 that the maximum age of 17 (up to the 18th birthday) was established in all provinces and territories.

Youths: Youths, as defined in this publication, refer to those aged 12 to 17 (inclusive). This definition applies to the target group that falls under the delegation of the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA). In this publication, rates of accused youths are represented only by those aged 12 to 17 (inclusive). The number of YOA incidents reported to police are included in the category "Other federal statute offences".

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